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Gromyko ends Belgrade talks

BELGRADE (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko flew home to Moscow Tuesday after two days of talks with Yugoslav leaders which he described as useful and necessary. He made the comment to reporters at Belgrade airport but declined to go into details of his discussions. Mr. Gromyko, also a member of the Soviet Communist Party's ruling Politburo, was the highest ranking Kremlin leader to visit Yugoslavia since the death nearly two years ago of President Tito who led the Balkan country out of the Soviet orbit and established it as an independent, non-aligned state. Mr. Gromyko brushed aside reporters' questions about a statement on Monday by President Reagan that he would like to meet Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev at a United Nations conference on disarmament this summer.

Floods kill 500 in South Yemen

ADEN (R) — Nearly 500 people have died and at least 10,000 have been made homeless in the worst rains and flooding in 40 years in South Yemen, a cabinet statement said on Tuesday. It estimated the loss to property and crops at 324 million dinars (about \$950 million), and appealed for international help to ease the new heavy economic burden on the country. The floods killed about 50,000 head of cattle and destroyed vast agricultural areas as well as irrigation wells in the provinces of Lahej and A'ayan, north and east of the capital, Aden. Roads, telephone and power installations in Aden were also damaged or destroyed, the statement said.

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U.S. delegation to travel to Mideast

WASHINGTON (A.P.) — An eight-member delegation from the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee will leave Wednesday on a 13-day trip to the Middle East and Africa, primarily to inspect construction of facilities of the Rapid Deployment Force, it was announced Tuesday. Stops on the trip, which will be led by Representative Richard White, include the Portuguese Azores, Morocco, Egypt, Oman, Kenya, Israel and Mauritius. "The Congress has been asked to support a large-scale (\$1 billion) commitment in a volatile but critically important part of the world," Chairman Melvin Price said in a statement. "It is essential that first-hand knowledge be obtained through on-site visits to the contingency bases and through discussions with as many of the respective political leaders of the host countries as possible."

Amin appeals for aid

MANAMA, Bahrain (A.P.) — Exiled Ugandan leader Idi Amin issued yet another appeal Tuesday for "money to buy weapons for the liberation of my country and to pay tuition fees for my children." My people are fighting heroically under hard conditions, and my own children here will be expelled from school because I cannot pay their tuition fees, said Gen. Amin in a telephone conversation with the Associated Press. He telephoned the A.P. Bahrain bureau from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, where he lives as a political refugee along with one of his two wives and his 23 children.

Reagan optimistic on U.S. depression

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said Tuesday the worst of the U.S. depression was nearly over and that the country was on the verge of a major victory over inflation. "There is good reason to believe the recession is bottoming out. We are on the verge of a major victory over inflation — the disease which has sapped our economic strength..." he told a convention of housing industry leaders. But the labour leaders made clear they were losing patience with Mr. Reagan's economic policies, which they claim have cost one million construction workers their jobs in the last year. Returning to the hotel where he was shot and wounded a year ago, President Reagan urged them to support his economic plan and to repeat his opposition to any attempts to repeal his tax cuts or cut the defence build-up.

Ecevit to face court April 29

ANKARA (R) — Former Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit will face a military court on April 29 for writing an article in the West German magazine Der Spiegel last month, a military spokesman said here Tuesday. Mr. Ecevit's lawyers said he faced up to nine months' jail if convicted. The court ordered Mr. Ecevit to appear on suspicion that the magazine article violated a military decree banning former political leaders from publicly expressing political opinions, the spokesman said. Mr. Ecevit has already spent 60 days in jail for violating the decree by talking to foreign reporters.

Controversial OAU meeting ends

SALISBURY, Zimbabwe (A.P.) — An Organisation of African Unity (OAU) labour ministers' conference, disrupted by a boycott of nine nations and a dispute over its legality, ended in Salisbury Tuesday. As Zimbabwe Labour Minister Kumbirai Kangai formally closed the two-day session delegates of nine nations which boycotted the talks were leaving the Zimbabwe capital. They refused to attend the opening of the ministerial meeting in protest over the inclusion of the Polisario Front, a guerrilla-backed movement fighting a six-year war for control of Moroccan-occupied Western Sahara. But the conference, originally scheduled for five days, went ahead after Minister Kangai, the chairman, ruled that there was a quorum of more than the required 34 members.

Thatcher refuses to resign over Falklands

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher bluntly refused to resign Tuesday as a political and economic storm raged around her over Argentina's seizure of the Falkland Islands. While Mrs. Thatcher was beating off another furious attack in parliament from the Labour Party opposition, the Argentine government was gathering support from the country's banned political parties. On the military front, both countries continued to prepare for possible war. Argentina strengthened the defences of the Falklands and organised civil defence on the mainland while another British warship, the assault ship Fearless, sailed to join a big fleet already steaming towards the South Atlantic.

Both Britain and Argentina have said they would prefer a diplomatic solution to the crisis and in Washington, Secretary of State Alexander Haig called in the British and Argentine ambassadors for talks. It was not known whether Mr. Haig would suggest ways to resolve the crisis. U.S. officials have so far made clear that although the United States was prepared to be helpful to both sides it was not urging any particular course of action.

Fears of war between Britain and Argentina and doubts about the British government's ability to survive the crisis forced the pound sterling to its lowest level against the dollar for four-and-a-half years.

The pound, which has dropped four cents since the end of last week, closed at \$1.7495 while another two billion sterling (\$3.5 billion) was wiped off the value of shares on the London Stock Market.

Mrs. Thatcher, who has staked the survival of her government on recovering the Falklands (See news analysis on this page), put further economic pressure on



The Kuwaiti foreign minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad (second from right), opens Tuesday in Kuwait meetings of non-aligned countries. To his left is PLO leader Yasser Arafat (A.P. wirephoto)

Iraq, Iran urged to end war

KUWAIT (R) — Iran and Iraq urged Tuesday to end the 18-month-old Gulf war when foreign ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement met in Kuwait, only 80 kilometres from the battlefield. The foreign ministers of the two warring countries heard Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sahah, urge them to cease hostilities immediately.

Both Iran and Iraq belong to the 96-member Non-Aligned Movement whose Coordination Bureau met to consider ways of helping the Palestinian cause in the face of "continued Israeli aggression in occupied Arab territories."

The Iranian Foreign Minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, and Iraq's Foreign Minister Saadoun Hammadi have been holding separate talks with non-aligned and Islamic mediators.

But Sheikh Sahah, who is also Kuwait's foreign minister, told the three-day conference that all efforts so far to end the war had failed. The Kuwaiti minister called for intensified efforts to end the conflict. He said it was a serious matter for the Non-Aligned Movement, which is scheduled to hold its next summit meeting in Baghdad in September.

Mr. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said the war must be ended so that non-aligned countries together "confront our common enemy, international imperialism." He said world imperialism led by the United States was giving unlimited aid to and instigating Israel to continue its policies of "aggression, arrogance and terrorism."

Both Mr. Arafat and Sheikh Sabah condemned the United States for vetoing U.N. Security Council resolutions calling on Israel to rescind its annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights and its dismissal of the Palestinian mayors of three West Bank towns.

In a message Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said the cornerstone of Iraqi foreign policy was and remained the Palestinian issue.

He made no direct mention of the Gulf war, according to the text made available to journalists. But in an apparent reference to reports that Iran received arms from Israel, he said: "Other countries are establishing military relations (with Israel) and buy Zionist weapons, thus helping to support the Zionist economy and developing its military industry."

Because of the war with Iraq, Iran has said that the September summit should be either postponed or shifted to another capital.

But Sheikh Sabah called on the Non-Aligned Movement Tuesday to reaffirm its decision to convene the meeting in Baghdad.

It was not clear whether the announcement meant that a four-member non-aligned mediatory group, originally expected to visit Tehran and Baghdad later this week, will not undertake the trips after all.

Both Iran and Iraq were officially said to have favoured a trend for letting the Islamic group alone handle their dispute during an Islamic peace effort last month, which found the two parties still irreconcilable.

The Islamic good offices committee is headed by Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Toure. Its nine members include the presidents of Pakistan, Bangladesh, the prime ministers of Turkey and Malaysia, the foreign ministers of Gambia and Senegal, Mr. Chatti and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

And increase it on nuclear weapons.

An ambitious man, he has frequently been mentioned as an alternative to Mrs. Thatcher at times when discontent with her policies has prompted mutterings among the ranks of the Conservative faithful.

For the moment, though, Mrs. Thatcher has dismissed all thought that anything might go wrong with her plan to regain the Falklands for Britain and the crown.

She does not believe the survival of her government is at stake. She concedes, however, that ultimately it is the prime minister who is personally responsible for the success or failure of the government's policies.

She shifted him from that post last year when he objected to her plans to reduce spending on Britain's conventional armed forces

and increase it on nuclear weapons.

He wanted to be foreign secretary when she formed her first cabinet in May 1979, but because Lord Carrington insisted on the job or nothing at all, Mrs. Thatcher sent Mr. Pym to the defence ministry.

He has the advantage of coming to the crisis fresh and relatively unscathed from his previous post as the government's manager of parliamentary business.

Mr. Pym, 60, has had his differences with Mrs. Thatcher in the past, and they have cost him ministerial positions.

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King returns from Gulf tour

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein returned to Amman on Tuesday evening at the end of a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

King Hussein had talks with King Khalid of Saudi Arabia and the emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, and high-ranking officials in the two countries.

The talks in both countries covered a comprehensive assessment of the issues and conditions in the Arab arena, particularly the recent developments in the occupied Arab territories, the military and political situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front, and ways to build a unified Arab stand to support the steadfastness of Palestinians in the occupied territories.

King Hussein's talks with the leaders of the two Arab countries also dealt with bilateral relations and ways of strengthening cooperation between Jordan on the one hand and Saudi Arabia and Qatar on the other.

King Hussein was met at Amman Airport by his Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, the president of the National Consultative Council (NCC), the Chief Chamberlain, the ministers, senior civilian and military officials and the Qatari ambassador in Amman.

The prime minister, the chief of the Royal Court, the court minister, and the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces returned with the King.

Upon his departure from Doha Airport, King Hussein was accorded an official departure ceremony. At the head of those seeing him off was Sheikh Khalifa and high-ranking Qatari officials.

King Hussein sent a cable from the plane to Sheikh Khalifa expressing confidence that "our nation has all the resources needed to wrest its legitimate rights and to defend its soil."

During his stay in Doha, King Hussein and Sheikh Khalifa held a meeting which was attended by the Jordanian delegation and a high-level Qatari delegation.

Sheikh Khalifa praised the King's keenness on consultation and the exchange of views with the leaders of the Arab Nation for the sake of the supreme Arab interest.

They reviewed the serious developments in the Arab area, and reviewed the situation in the occupied Arab territories and on the battlefield on the eastern flank of the Arab World. They also discussed the strong relations between the two countries and ways of developing cooperation between the two peoples.

The King had arrived in Qatar from Saudi Arabia at noon on Tuesday.

Jordan gets IFC loan

WASHINGTON (A.P.) — The International Finance Corporation (IFC)—part of the World Bank—announced on Tuesday that it is taking part in its first loan in Swiss francs.

It is lending 20 million francs (about \$10.25 million) to the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company. The loan is part of a \$39.4 million project for using fluosilicic acid

from a fertiliser plant to make aluminum fluoride, needed in the manufacture of aluminum.

The acid is a toxic waste that would otherwise have to be neutralised at considerable expense. It is expected instead to earn \$8 million a year for Jordan from exports to other Middle East countries and to Australia.

Saudi king denounces Israel and those behind it

BAHRAIN (R) — King Khalid of Saudi Arabia has denounced Israel and those behind it—an apparent reference to the United States—for the current unrest in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, according to the Saudi Press Agency.

The agency was quoting Information Minister Mohammad Abdo Yamani after a cabinet meeting in Riyadh on Monday night which discussed the West Bank situation among other issues.

Dr. Abdo Yamani said Crown Prince Fahd told the cabinet that King Khalid was particularly concerned about the issue and pledged support for the resistance of the Palestinian people there.

The king also said Saudi Arabia stood by the Palestinians against "the Zionist enemy and those behind it," Dr. Abdo Yamani said.

King Khalid's denunciation was obviously also directed at the U.S., which has come under severe criticism in the Saudi media for its latest Security Council veto of a resolution on the West Bank.

The resolution criticised Israel for its actions and demanded it rescind its dismissal of three elected Arab mayors, which led to a mass uprising against the Israeli occupation.

Begin, opposition discuss Israeli security measures

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and senior ministers held an unscheduled meeting with leaders of the opposition Labour Party Tuesday to discuss security matters.

It was the first official meeting between Mr. Begin and Labour leaders since only hours before Israel announced the annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights last December.

At Tuesday's two-hour talks, Mr. Begin, Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and the head of the Knesset (parliament) Foreign Affairs and Security Committee met Labour Chairman Shimon Peres and two other party leaders.

Mr. Peres said that "security and political matters were discussed" but declined to elaborate.

The killing of an Israeli diplomat in Paris at the weekend has fuelled fears among foreign diplomats here that Israel might attack Palestinian commandos in southern Lebanon.

Israeli newspapers earlier said the meeting was called to discuss the situation in South Lebanon and occupied Arab territories.

U.S. officials said Mr. Begin later Tuesday would meet U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis, who was quoted by an Israeli newspaper as having urged Israel to refrain from action in South Lebanon.

Mr. Shamir said on Monday Israel would strike "without mercy" at Palestinian commandos whom it blamed for the killing in Paris of diplomat Yacov Barsimantov. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has denied involvement in the shooting.

After Tuesday's meeting, Mr. Peres was asked whether he thought the killing violated the ceasefire of last July between Israel and the Palestinians in southern Lebanon.

"It was contrary to the ceasefire but that does not mean one can draw automatic conclusions," he replied.

He added that calls by Mr. Begin for Labour to join forces with the ruling right-wing Likud bloc in a government of national unity did not come up at the meeting.

Several Israeli newspapers have called on the government to seek proof that the PLO was responsible for the Paris incident before taking retaliatory action.

The daily Maariv said Ambassador Lewis urged restraint on Israel at a meeting Monday with the Foreign Ministry's deputy director-general, Hannan Bar-Onn.

The Labour Party, which holds 45 seats in the 120-member Knesset, criticised Mr. Begin at the time of the Golan Heights annexation for what it called his failure to consult it adequately before the surprise move.

Speculation persists on Brezhnev's health

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet government statement that President Leonid Brezhnev is on holiday has failed to end speculation among Westerners in Moscow about the 75-year-old leader's health.

Replying to journalists' queries on Monday, a Foreign Ministry spokesman denied a report that Mr. Brezhnev had suffered a stroke and was planning to resign in May.

Mr. Brezhnev last appeared in public on March 26 when he flew out of Tashkent after a four-day visit. He looked tired and drawn after what one Western diplomat here described as a punishing programme for a man of his age.

The next day it was officially announced that a visit by South Yemeni head of state Ali Nasser Mohammad, scheduled for March 29, had been postponed by mutual agreement.

No word was said about Mr. Brezhnev's health but usually reliable sources in Moscow said the Soviet leader was receiving hospital treatment for an undisclosed ailment.

Unofficial reports suggested the Soviet leader might be suffering from heart or circulation problems but in keeping with Kremlin practice officials remained silent for a whole week.

One Western ambassador who inquired from First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgy Korniyenko about Mr. Brezhnev's health received an icy silence.

The Foreign Ministry broke its silence on Monday to say that the report in Newsweek magazine of Mr. Brezhnev suffering a stroke "does not correspond with reality."

Mr. Brezhnev's next likely appearance in public will probably be at a Kremlin political meeting on April 21, on the eve of the Lenin's birthday.

Some Soviet officials admit privately that speculation about the Kremlin leader's health would be much reduced if Moscow followed usual international practice by announcing when he was receiving medical treatment.

But in public, they tend to react angrily to any suggestion that Mr. Brezhnev is anything less than fully fit.

Thatcher's future hangs on Falklands edge

armads that sailed for the Falklands on Monday, 25 per cent of those questioned thought Mrs. Thatcher should quit.

The opposition Labour Party, while backing the despatch of the British fleet to the South Atlantic subject to continuing diplomatic efforts, has quickly geared itself to make the most of the political fallout from the crisis.

Labour politicians and other parliamentarians believe the resignations at the foreign office have seriously weakened the government.

The departure of Lord Carrington, and of Defence Minister John Nott who offered to quit but was told by Mrs. Thatcher to stay at his post, was eagerly sought by the opposition.

Members of the ruling Conservative Party, angry at the humiliation of a government elected on a platform of increased defence spending, joined in the chorus of demands for heads to roll.

But the Conservatives will not go as far as Denis Healey, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman in parliament, who says Mrs. Thatcher should have resigned.

"It is the prime minister who is responsible in the British government for managing crises," he said. "She is trying to save her neck by sacrificing others, but it won't work."

The prime minister's aides say that as far as they know, Mrs. Thatcher has not considered resigning.

But with 2.5 billion sterling (\$4.4 billion) wiped off the value of British industry in a burst of panic selling on the stock exchange on Monday, a further steep slide in shares on Tuesday and pressure on sterling in foreign exchanges, political sources say demand for more government changes could mount.

The person considered most likely to succeed Mrs. Thatcher if she should go is her new foreign secretary, Francis Pym.

He has the advantage of coming to the crisis fresh and relatively unscathed from his previous post as the government's manager of parliamentary business.

Mr. Pym, 60, has had his differences with Mrs. Thatcher in the past, and they have cost him ministerial positions.

He wanted to be foreign secretary when she formed her first cabinet in May 1979, but because Lord Carrington insisted on the job or nothing at all, Mrs. Thatcher sent Mr. Pym to the defence ministry.

He shifted him from that post last year when he objected to her plans to reduce spending on Britain's conventional armed forces



Margaret Thatcher

Cheysson says PLO presumed innocent

PARIS (R) — French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson said on Tuesday there was no proof the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had been involved in Saturday's murder here on an Israeli diplomat and he ruled out closure of the PLO's Paris office.

Speaking on French Radio, Mr. Cheysson said: "We do not believe there will be peace in the Middle East without negotiation. It is advantageous to let the PLO have an office here so it can speak for the Palestinian people."

On Monday night police tightened security at Strasbourg airport in eastern France when a plane bound for Tel Aviv took off on the first of a series of scheduled weekly flights organised by a private Israeli airline company.

Begin-Schmidt feud 'is over'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (A.P.) — West Berlin Mayor Richard von Weizsaecker won assurances from Prime Minister Menachem Begin Tuesday that his personal feud with West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt was over.

Mr. von Weizsaecker told reporters after meeting Mr. Begin that his "impression was that no personal things are being carried over in the future, but it is rather a question of how the political views on the various subjects develop."

Mr. Begin has accused Mr. Schmidt of "wooing the Arabs for their oil," and has charged that he was a loyal supporter of Hitler to the end because he served in the German army as an officer throughout the war.

The West Berlin mayor said the two countries have "divergent interpretations of certain public declarations" that may be sorted out during the visit this spring by Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

NATIONAL

Diggers report on Bab Al Dhra', Numeira excavations

Wealth of history at Dead Sea sites

The following is a report on the Dead Sea valley archaeological expedition prepared by Walter Rast and Thomas Schaub, co-directors of the expedition. The article is reprinted from the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) Newsletter.

A major field season such as the one conducted in summer 1981 presupposes a good deal of preparation. We as co-directors began planning over a year ahead of the actual season, writing grant proposals, making contacts with friends in Jordan, and lining up staff. Marilyn Schaub was busy from early in 1981 contacting volunteer staff and exploring the most reasonable forms of transportation. All of this crystallized on May 24 as some 65 people arrived on a variety of airlines at the Amman airport. Coming from New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, and other starting points, they were to discover themselves suddenly transported into a different world of desert, and rainless days and nights. There were doubtless many second thoughts — wondering how one could have left the summer cottage, the leisure time of summer, the chances to water ski, to camp, to read, for more rigorous life. It was interesting, however, that any initial doubts quickly dissipated in the face of the challenges and adventure of archaeology. Soon we were to witness the birth of that unique community, the staff of 1981.

Our home base in Karak was, in previous seasons, the Crusader Castle, the prominent landmark of the town. Since the Department of Antiquities has converted the hall we had used previously into an elegant museum, they kindly offered us two large underground vaulted rooms for sleeping and dining. Several of our staff quickly set about devising ingenious solutions to our survival in these quarters, and it seems certain that archaeologists of the future will be fascinated, if not baffled, by the artefacts left behind by this atypical group. From this twelfth-century A.D. castle we made our descent to the Dead Sea valley each day of the field season, beginning our work at 4:00 a.m. and finishing at 12:00 noon. Situated at some 3,000 feet higher than the valley below, Karak was always a welcome relief from the obdurate climate of the Dead Sea flatland.

The Season's Work

We returned to Bab Al Dhra and Numeira this summer with two objectives: to finish work started during previous seasons and to acquire data needed to finalise the first phase of the expedition. These goals accomplished, the expedition plans for the next four years to concentrate its energy on the final publications of the excavations. A series of five volumes is projected which will contain the results of the four campaigns conducted between 1975 and 1981. Following this publication phase, longer-range plans are to return for an investigation of the other sites in the valley with Early Bronze Age remains, Al Safi and Feifeh in particular.

Bab Al Dhra

A large amount of the resources of the expedition was focused on a final concentrated effort on the ruins of the unusually rich settlement at Bab Al Dhra. Had you been able to visit us this summer you would have seen feverish activity in various parts of the settlements site just north of the Karak-Safi road. This is where we concentrated our team at Bab Al Dhra, and the payoff was splendid.

The Urban Period (2900-2350 B.C.)

We now know a great deal about what life was like in the city of the Early Bronze III phase. At that time Bab Al Dhra was protected by a wall averaging 7 metres in width, of mudbrick with a stone foundation. It would have been extremely difficult for enemies to penetrate this impressive fortification. Of course, one of the tantalising problems was how the people themselves moved in and out of the city. In Field XI of the previous seasons, the crew directed by Tese Reilly had done a careful piece of work on two matching tower structures at the northeast end of the site. Only in post-season study did it emerge that these matching towers had flanked a gateway. Interestingly, the towers were at the very end of the Early Bronze III phase, judging from the kinds of late pottery found in them.

During this summer a second gateway came to light on the west end, built in connection with one of the strongest sections of the city wall and opening out to the broad vista of the Dead Sea valley in the west. We discovered that the Early Bronze Age builders had paved the passage through the gate with a cement-like mixture of white marl and small stones. At some stage, however, the gateway was blocked; it is possible that this occurred about the time that Numeira was sacked the first time. Since the western entry was no longer in use in the short time thereafter, the people may have moved the entry to the northeast, constructing the matching towers mentioned above.

One of the major accomplishments of the past season was discovering how intense and long-lasting the occupation at Bab Al Dhra was during the urban period. We calculate that the beginning of the city of Bab Al Dhra occurred about 2900 B.C., that is, about the time of the construction of the pyramids of the third and fourth dynasties in Egypt. At first the city apparently was not surrounded entirely by a wall. Rather, the people relied on the natural hillocks to provide a certain amount of defence, while lower areas were sometimes filled in with a mudbrick enclosure. However, around 2600 B.C. the city folk decided to enclose the whole area with a wall about 21 feet in diameter, made with a stone foundation and a superstructure of mudbrick. Through this wall the two gates mentioned above provided an entry.

On the interior of this urban area, from 2900 down to its destruction about 2350 B.C., the peoples of the various phases built numerous brick buildings. Several of our fields brought to light evidence for adobe-like living quarters and finely made mudbrick buildings resting on stone foundations. These often were found one on top of another, suggesting an intense and continuous occupation of the site through the entire urban period. Among the more unusual finds from the interior of the city were three cylinder seals, two with geometric patterns and a third similar to Jemdet Nasr types. In previous seasons many seal impressions on pottery had been found, but these were the first actual seals.

Along with this investigation of the interior of the city, we finished clearing the sanctuary area on the southwestern end of the site. Two well-built rectangular structures constructed one on top of the other offer some unusually fine evidence for the religious practices of the people who lived at Bab Al Dhra in antiquity. At this stage we are inclined to view these in-

habitants as early Canaanites, and the various items which came to light around the sanctuary precincts give us a rather clear view of the practices of their religion. Several more remains of thick wooden beams up to a height of 15 inches were discovered on the stone pedestals of the interior of the lower building. These beams were the surviving parts of tall wooden columns which supported the ceiling of the sanctuary. We have preserved the wood for species analysis and also for Carbon 14 tests. Our conservator, Edith Dietz, was kept busy preserving these wood samples. Along with the great amount of wood found elsewhere at the site, such as in the two gateway towers of the northeast, in structures on the interior of the city, and in large amounts at Numeira, we can conclude that tree-felling was conducted on an intense scale. The trees were local, indicating that the slopes east of the site were once well covered with several species of long-lived trees. Thus, the Early Bronze Age peoples left a mark on the area which continues to the present time, for it seems safe to say that today's extreme conditions were set into motion largely at this early time, and through the centuries nature has taken its course.

A particularly important problem which has occupied us for all the years we have been working at these sites is how they finally came to an end. We can date the end of the urban centres at both Bab Al Dhra and Numeira to about 2350 B.C. But how they were terminated is difficult to determine with certainty. Two explanations are possible: one is that they were destroyed by an enemy, the other that natural causes such as earthquake were responsible. We are inclined toward the first explanation because at Bab Al Dhra the city phase is followed by a further final phase which since the time of Paul Lapp's excavations has been labeled Early Bronze IV. Since the population of this phase built structures on top of the ruins of the early city in some places, and since many of their buildings were constructed outside the ruins to the northeast, it seems that they may have had a hand in bringing the city to an end. It is possible that at the same time a natural disaster occurred, and that the Early Bronze IV people, not themselves hostile to the previous inhabitants, were able to capitalise on this to settle at the site.

This summer, one group of our staff directed by Jim Flanagan excavated an area with most unusual remains from this Early Bronze IV phase. They were working on the north side of the city, attempting to define the extent of the city on this side. While doing so,



It seems lifeless from 100 miles up... but the Dead Sea has been a focus of activity for thousands of years

they discovered two superimposed buildings which had apparently been used for religious purposes. The upper building was a circular one, in the centre of which was a large slab resting on a base of boulders and smaller stones. Near this installation, excavation revealed a number of animal bones and horns of sheep or goats. Below this structure, an earlier one consisted of a finely plastered building with doorway and plastered walls. In association with this building, the base of a well-made burnished incense burner came to light. This building is the first such religious-type structure to appear in Palestine belonging to this phase, thus it is of distinctive value.

A second project in the cemetery area, directed by Michael Finnegan, explored a small area between the cemetery and town just north of the modern Karak-Safi road. A series of stone walls dated to EB IA-IB was uncovered, lending further support to our hypothesis that the earliest occupation at Bab Al Dhra moved through several stages, beginning with seasonal migration and developing into permanent open-air settlement.

The Bab Al Dhra' Cemetery

Across the Karak-Safi asphalt road, one-half kilometre southwest of the settlement, is the extensive cemetery of Bab Al Dhra'. In previous seasons we had made major explorations in the cemetery. In 1981 we decided to limit our work to surface survey. Under the supervision of Dr. Donald Ortner of the Smithsonian Institution, a plan was devised for

using an electro-magnetic instrument developed by Bruce Beran, who was with us for a week. The work was carried out during 1981 by Dr. Bruno Frohlich, also of the Smithsonian Institution, and the results were startling. Not only was the entire cemetery area surveyed with the help of the instrument, its accuracy and usefulness were tested by excavation in three or four cases, and it came through with flying colours. In two cases, the shaft of an Early Bronze IA tomb was registered as a low on the grid, and the test excavations came directly on a shaft of this phase.

This kind of practical success led the Smithsonian crew confidently toward the completion of its main objective, survey of the entire cemetery. Our intention here was to use the device to plot intensity of tomb digging. On the basis of such data, we are in the position to extrapolate reliable estimates of population at Bab Al Dhra' through the approximately thousand-year period of its use during the Early Bronze Age. Dr. Frohlich and his assistants stayed in the field beyond the excavation season, finishing their work at the end of July. Their reports, which are now being completed, should provide some of the conclusions we had envisaged for the cemetery during this summer's work.

Numeira

Along with the concentrated work on the settlement at Bab Al Dhra', our staff also undertook a more intensive exploration at Numeira than had been possible during previous seasons. Directed by Dr. Michael Coogan, the Num-

Coming from New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago and other points, the diggers found themselves suddenly transported into a different world of desert, and rainless days and nights.

eira crew opened over a dozen new squares, in addition to completing squares left from previous seasons. The result is that this unusual Early Bronze III site has reached a level of exposure matched by only a few sites, such as that of Arad in the Negev west of the Dead Sea. One of our priorities is to seek funds to conserve this site as a tourist area. We can foresee the establishment of a small regional museum at Numeira that would introduce visitors to the unique ecology of the Dead Sea valley, its geology, and the types of human settlement established here, particularly during the Early Bronze but also in Roman, Byzantine, and modern times. We believe these would be subjects of popular interest, so we are hopeful particularly that some of the larger developing industries in the southeastern plain, both local and international, might see the museum as a major contribution for incorporation in to development of the area.

Dr. Bruce Bowen of Great Britain is making several visits to Numeira to begin provisional conservation work at the site under the sponsorship of Jordan's Department of Antiquities. About one-sixth of the surviving remains are now exposed at this significant site. This includes a series of living and storage rooms inter-locked by main walls shared by the rooms, a street constructed on an east-west axis with the abutting rooms, a defensive wall some 10 feet thick which surrounded the city in antiquity, and a tower system which was incorporated into the city toward its latter days. The staff suspects that the main gateway into the city lies at the southwest end of the site, and it is hoped that this area can be opened later.

Results came quickly at Numeira, as in previous seasons. The daily registration and processing of objects and samples from this site kept the crew unusually busy, with the result that in our post-season study we have rich collections of materials for our various specialists to study. When the results are pulled together, Numeira should give us one of the all-round clearest pictures of what life was like in the region of Palestine during the third millennium B.C.

There were three major results from the work undertaken here during 1981. The first consisted of uncovering nearly eight rooms on both sides of the east-west street. The rooms represented a variety of uses. Several were mostly for storage, but others indicated the kinds of simple activities which were carried on routinely in the city. One room contained a plastered bin in which barley was stored; great quantities of it were found there. Nearby was a mortar built into the gravel floor, in which

the grain could be ground. In another room was a mortar with a pestle still in it, and in still another room a circle 3 feet in diameter of medium-sized flat stones had been burned—obviously this was a baking area. A smaller room near the street was apparently a pantry, since broken pottery sherds by the bushels came from this confined area. Specialised activities were found in some of the rooms, as indicated by the nicely made bone-weaving implements found in several of them. As during the past season, there was much evidence for quick abandonment of these rooms, and in many of them there was burnt destruction debris so characteristic of this site.

A second result came from the intensive explorations carried on at the eastern tower. Investigation of this interesting area began during the 1979 season, but not until the past season were its secrets revealed. Interestingly, the tower was discovered to be a late addition to the town. Its excavation showed that there were in an earlier phase the same kinds of rooms found elsewhere at the site, rooms of simple square or somewhat rectangular shape, usually with a single entry an accompanying door socket. However, certain conditions led the inhabitants of Numeira to build a tower over the east-end rooms, and this was carried out using huge boulders of the size employed in constructing the city wall. This has led us to speculate that conditions in the southeastern plain were becoming unstable towards the latter half of Numeira's existence, and that consequently this strong defensive tower, which was plastered on its exterior, was constructed.

That brings us to a third, quite spectacular discovery, which was made in connection with the tower excavations. Here as clearly as anywhere at the site, there was evidence for destruction at the end of the city's life. On the west side of the tower, as members of the crew were digging, two human skeletons emerged which were buried in the burnt debris of the destroyed city and covered by heaps of boulders which had fallen from the tower wall. It soon became evident that they had not been burials but rather that they were human victims of the catastrophe which brought the city to its end. To add even a greater amount of interest to the summer's work, as digging proceeded around the north side of the tower, a further human victim appeared in a thick layer of burnt destruction debris. Our photographer made some fine photos and color slides of all these human remains in their context. Perhaps the most significant thing about the one to the north was that it belonged to an earlier phase than those dis-

covered on the west. Thus it is clear that Numeira underwent two destructions, one partway through the life of the city and the second at its very end. In retrospect, this is an item of importance in connecting events at this site and the sister site of Bab Al Dhra'.

What the double destruction with its human victims suggests to us is that about 2400 B.C., or shortly before, the political situation in the Dead Sea valley had become unstable. Perhaps some limited assault was attempted against the two cities, as suggested by the first destruction with its human victim at Numeira, as well as by the decision to block the big western gate at Bab Al Dhra and construct the two-tower gate at the less accessible northeastern end of the site. In not more than fifty years both sites experienced an apparent destruction, after which Numeira was abandoned altogether and Bab Dhra resettled by people employing a different plan. It still remains unknown how to account for the termination of the two sites around 2350 B.C. It is always possible that some natural phenomenon such as earthquake occurred, but destruction by human force cannot be ruled out.

Geology of the Dead Sea

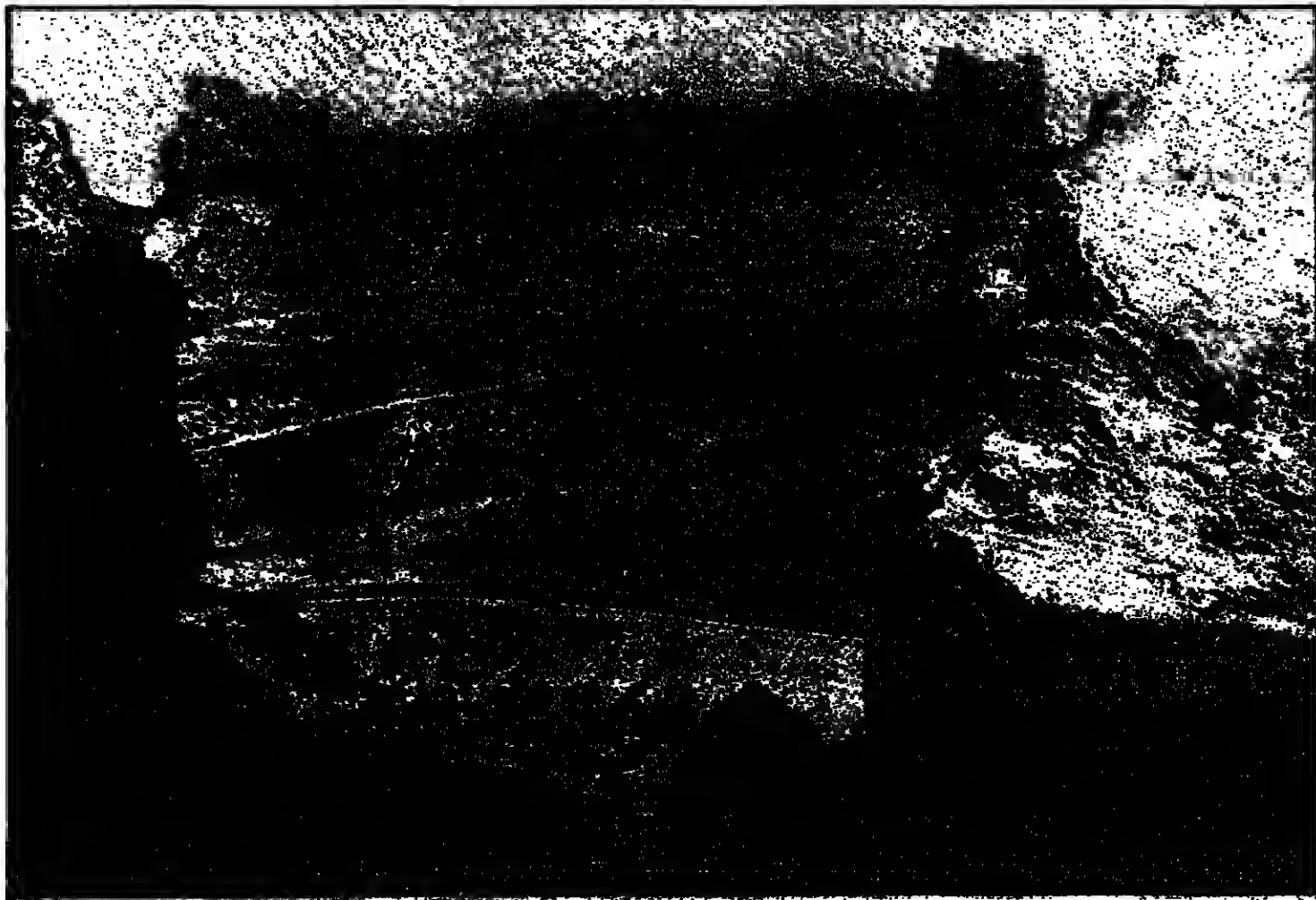
While excavation was going on at the two sites, Dr. Jack Donahue continued his intensive study of the geology of the southeastern plain, finalising his work at Bab Al Dhra and making a concentrated study of the region around Numeira. It is, of course, impossible to applaud sufficiently the contributions of the supporting staff of specialists such as Donahue on the geomorphology of the region.

Donahue's work continued this summer with further exploration of Bab Al Dhra and the region around it and with a similar investigation around Numeira. He has arrived at some fascinating, significant conclusions regarding the topography around Bab Al Dhra. His surface surveys and vertical profiles have tracked a continuous and sometimes rapid process of erosion, which were important not only for understanding the degeneration which has occurred at the settlement site, but also for understanding the changes in the Dead Sea environment viewed more broadly.

An interesting application of Donahue's conclusion occurred this summer as he set to work on the Numeira site. During the excavation against the eastern tower at Numeira, a sand layer was found abutting the eastern wall. This layer was under the fallen debris of the collapsed tower, and its unusual features prompted the Numeira staff to call upon Donahue for an explanation. His tentative conclusions were that the layer indicated a considerable shift in the route of the Wadi Numeira over the course of the past 4,000 years. He proposed that at the time of occupation the Wadi may in fact have run along the south rather than the north side of the site, and that as it changed its course it effected the almost total erosion of the north side of Numeira. We shall leave the details to Donahue and await publication and interpretation of his data in the near future.

Now, following this busy season, we are engaged in organising our materials. We are committed to preliminary reports in the journals of both the Department of Antiquities of Jordan and the American Schools of Oriental Research. Work continues on the processing which will lead to our final publications, and we also have in mind several articles directed to the general public.

We are particularly indebted to the many individuals who donated privately to the support of the expedition. We are grateful to the National Endowment for the Humanities, which matched these private gifts, and to the committee for Research and Exploration of the National Geographic Society, which for a second time gave us an encouraging vote of confidence by offering a grant for our work. Institutional support through gifts and financial aid for student volunteers also came from Harvard Divinity School, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, University of Montana, St. John's University (Collegeville, Minnesota), and Valparaiso University. The Department of Antiquities of Jordan, under the directorship of Dr. Adnan Hadidi, greatly assisted our work by constructing a dig house before we arrived and by providing financial support for hiring additional workers.



The Crusader Castle at Karak, home of the archaeologists who dug at the sites in the valley below

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "مركز الدراسات والبحوث"

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

World health day celebrated

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will celebrate on Wednesday the world health day. Health Minister Zuhair Malhas addressed a message on the occasion saying that the appeal made by the World Health Organisation (WHO) this year aims to bring attention to the life of old people and the need to provide them with care. He also called for following the teachings of Islam in caring for old people.

Weed killers to clean Azraq pool

ZARQA (Petra) — The Zarqa agriculture directorate has decided to make experiments on the use of weed killers against weeds that grow in fish pools in Al Azraq to eliminate these weeds which impede fish growth and fishing operations, provided that these chemicals do not affect the fish or other marine animals. Agriculture Ministry experts and companies importing pesticides will participate in these experiments.

Seminar to mark ascension

AMMAN (Petra) — The Awqaf directors in Jordan met today under Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif, and decided to hold a religious seminar on the occasion of the celebrations marking Prophet Mohammad's ascension to heaven. On the other hand, Mr. Sharif sent a letter of thanks to Mr. Saleh Abdullah Kamel, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Islamic Bank, for contributing JD 100,000 to the Islamic orphanage school in Jerusalem.

Celebrations mark social work day

ZARQA (Petra) — Ceremonies marking the social work day took place on Monday at the vocational training centre and in scheller school on Tuesday. Similar ceremonies took place in other institutions in Zarqa. Token gifts were given to the tenants of the vocational training centre, the psychological health society and the home of the disabled. The Zarqa celebrations on the social work day will continue for one week.

Tourist camp planned for Petra

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has decided to set up a 600-bed tourist camp near Petra to serve local tourists. The ministry is currently building an 80-room hotel in Petra.

Unlicensed buildings demolished

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Municipality employees on Monday morning began demolishing buildings constructed without licences or permits in Amman's fourth district in Jabal Al Hussein, after a one-month grace period. The municipality will continue the demolition work both because of violations committed in their construction and because of sanitary and cleanliness problems they pose.

Jabal Al Qusour to be cleaned

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni has said that the municipality will begin on Saturday an intensive work week in Jabal Al Qusour for the maintenance of streets, removal of garbage and plantation of trees in addition to a general campaign of cleanliness. He said students in Jabal Al Qusour will participate in the campaign. Mayor Ajlouni expressed the hope that citizens would cooperate with the municipality to make the campaign succeed.

40 paintings from Saudi Arabia displayed



AMMAN (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Abla opened the Saudi art exhibition on Tuesday afternoon at the Palace of Culture in Al Hussein Youth City. The exhibition is organised by the Saudi embassy in Amman, in cooperation with the Department of Culture and Arts. During the two-

week exhibition, in which 12 artists are participating, 40 paintings representing the various art schools inspired by Saudi traditions, customs and folklore are displayed. Some of the paintings also show the beauty of nature in the desert and the decorations of Islamic holy places.

Municipalities minister meets Madabans

MADABA (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani on Tuesday made an inspection tour of Madaba District.

During his tour, Mr. Momani said that the plan for joint services councils is in its final stage, and will be applied soon. "It will give the joint services councils a new push to serve adjoining villages, and to provide public services for citizens in them," he said.

He said the ministry will pay special attention to these councils, and will provide them with the necessary financing to provide a better standard of services. While in Madaba, he opened a municipal engineering directorate for the district.

During a meeting with the heads of municipal and village councils in the district, Mr. Momani called for persistent efforts to collect government taxes and fees owed by citizens, and affirmed that this is the responsibility of these councils. A technical committee from the Environment Department at the ministry will be sent to study Madaba Municipality's plan to establish a tradesmen's zone. The meeting was told.

During his tour, Mr. Momani also discussed the level of services in the villages he visited, and the plans of the joint services councils to provide better services. Mr. Momani decided to approve a loan to Ma'in Municipality to implement its projects, particularly the opening and asphaltting of roads and streets.



Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani meets local officials on a visit to Madaba District Tuesday (Petra photo)

Ties with Peking stressed on 5th anniversary of relations

AMMAN (Petra) — Wednesday is the fifth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Jordan and the People's

Republic of China.

On this occasion, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and his Chinese counterpart exchanged cables of congratulations, reaffirming the desire of the two countries to develop the ties of friendship and strengthen relations between them.

During the last five years, Jordan and China have concluded trade and cultural agreements, and Jordanian exports of phosphates to China totalled well over JD 10 million. The two countries also exchanged visits by delegations for political, parliamentary, economic, cultural, sports and tourism discussions.

Trucking firm plans model school in south

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of directors of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company (IJLTC) decided in its meeting on Tuesday to build a model school in southern Jordan.

The company has sent a letter to the Education Ministry to specify the time and place at which it plans to establish this school. The aim of this step is to serve the residents of the south, a spokesman said. International firms working for IJLTC are establishing garages and headquarters at Aqaba. They carry cargo from Aqaba to Baghdad.

816 phones due

AMMAN (Petra) — Communications Minister and Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Chairman Mohammad Abdou Al Zaben said at the end of an expanded meeting of the central telephone committee in Amman today that the committee will install 816 new telephones in Jabal Hussein, downtown Amman and Sahab.

Dr. Zaben said TCC was enabled to meet the demand for these new telephones after the expansion of the telephone networks which provided it with numerous new lines.

4 murderers executed

AMMAN (J.T.) — Four convicts were hanged on Tuesday morning at the Rehabilitation Centre in Amman. They were Raja Al Najjar, 37, Mohammad Marshdeh, 42, Salim Al Tahmir, 39, and Awad Mohammad Uthman, 34.

The first convict Raja Al Najjar was an old friend of his victim's Jawad (his full name was not disclosed). Raja had worked in Italy, where he married an Italian woman. He later divorced his wife, borrowed a sum of money from Jawad and left for Saudi Arabia. Raja's wife sued him in an Italian court, and all court notifications were sent through Jawad, who also claimed his money back. This made Raja suspect a love affair between his divorced wife and friend, so on Aug. 18, 1980, Raja shot him dead.

The second convict, Mohammad Marshdeh, killed Fandi on Aug. 20, 1973 in Irbid at the latter's home because of a financial dispute.

Salim Al Tahmir, the third convict, killed Ulayyan in Zarqa by strangling him with a rope at the Jordan Petroleum Refinery in Zarqa, in order to marry Ulayyan's wife with whom he had an affair.

All that is known about the fourth criminal, Awad Mohammad Uthman, is that he killed Fawzi.

Attorney General Kamel Izma said the four criminals were executed because they committed premeditated murder, and no tribal conciliation took place in order to reduce the sentences.



The four convicted murderers before their execution (Photos by Yusef Al-Akhal)



Swiss official visits scientific society

AMMAN (Petra) — Mr. Alain Borner, the head of the Economy Ministry of the Canton of Geneva, on Tuesday visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), where he met with RSS Director General Albert Butros.

Dr. Butros explained to the Swiss guest the RSS' history, its development and its contribution to the promotion of Jordan's resources. It makes its contribution through research, scientific studies, practical applications, consultative services to public and private sector establishments and the specialised training needed for the development of Jordan, he said.

Dr. Butros also explained several projects which the RSS plans in order to keep up with scientific progress and technological advancement in the world. He also explained the strong ties connecting the RSS with Arab and international scientific establishments.

Mr. Borner toured several RSS departments and sections, and saw their activities. He also heard a briefing on their projects and achievements. He expressed his admiration of the advanced scientific standard of the RSS, and his role in advancing the research and scientific movement in Jordan and in neighbouring countries.

developing countries.

Visit to university

Also Tuesday, Mr. Borner met with University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali, who briefed him on the history, development and activities of the university. Dr. Majali also explained educational progress in Jordan and the educational philosophy of the university, which aims at developing Jordanian manpower to contribute to national development both in Jordan and in neighbouring countries.

\$5 billion allocated for Development Decade

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Secretary General of the Arab Economists Association Hisham Al Shamma' has praised the economic progress in Jordan, thanks to the pioneering role of the Jordanian government and the ability of the Jordanian citizen to innovate and to create investment and development opportunities.

In a statement to the correspondent of the Jordan News

Agency, Petra, in Baghdad, Dr. Shamma' said the Arab countries are working seriously for the application of the economic decisions taken by the Amman summit.

Dr. Shamma' said \$5 billion have been allocated by the Amman summit for the Arab Economic Decade, and will be paid by Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.

WHO experts due next week to study occupation conditions

AMMAN (Petra) — A committee of international experts will arrive in Amman next Tuesday to study the health conditions of the residents of the occupied Arab territories. During their stay in Jordan, the committee members will meet several Health Ministry officials to get acquainted with the information available at the ministry on those conditions.

After visiting the occupied territories, the committee will submit a report to the director general of the World Health Organisation (WHO). The report will be discussed at WHO's 35th session, which will open in Geneva on May 13.

The committee was formed by a decision of the WHO general assembly, to study the conditions of the Arab residents in the occupied territories.

Abu Qoura raps U.S.

Meanwhile, Jordanian National Red Crescent Society President Ahmad Abu Qoura said that the justifications used by the American delegate at the U.N. Security Council in vetoing a Jordanian draft resolution condemning the



Ahmad Abu Qoura

Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territories are fabrications, which contravene the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Dr. Abu Qoura said that Article 54 of the convention forbids occupation authorities to change the status of public servants or the judiciary system in occupied territories, or to impose penalties or arbitrary measures in case officials fail, for reasons of conscience, to discharge their functions.

Dr. Abu Qoura said the justifications used by the American delegate in casting the negative vote contravened international and human laws.

Today's weather

The weather will be fair with northerly moderate winds. In Aqaba winds will be northerly moderate and the sea calm.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	8	18
Aqaba	13	27
Deserts	5	24
Jordan Valley	13	25

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 16, Aqaba 25. Humidity readings: Amman 50 per cent, Aqaba 34 per cent.

THE 40TH DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE for the late

GEORGE SALEH AL KHOURI

will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, April 8, 1982, at the Greek Orthodox Church, Abdali, Amman.

May his soul rest in peace

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1. Full payment in cash or cheque accompanies the advertisement.
2. The minimum charge for a single advertisement is JD 7,500.
3. Advertisements sent by mail cannot contain any artwork such as company emblems, photos or drawings, but must consist only of a headline and copy that will be typeset by the Jordan Times.
4. Advertisements are not accepted over the telephone or telex, and guaranteed insertions on specific dates can only be assured by sending in the advertisements so they reach the Jordan Times office at least two days before the required day of publication.
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SCIENCE & INDUSTRY

Exploration for oil in Jordan

The current five-year (1981-1985) plan includes plans to prospect for oil and natural gas. The projects involve a continuation of the geological and geophysical studies conducted to identify the locations where digging operations should be concentrated. Some operations have already been started and have shown positive signs. The cost of the programme is expected to be JD 23 million.

Another project, which has also started, involves the exploitation of oil shale. The aim is to utilise oil rocks for the generation of electricity and for the provision of condensed oil. Unfortunately, expectations for this programme are somewhat gloomy.

For years, Jordan has been searching for oil in its territory. The official departments concerned, in collaboration with foreign firms, have made many attempts so far to no avail, and no reports were made public in the outcome. Mystery has surrounded the whole affair, and still does. The recent news about the digging operations has been brief and vague.

A statement by the vice-president of the Natural Resources Authority said that there are indications of the existence of oil in Azraq; and that further work needs to be carried out to investigate its commercial viability.

If it were a minor, unimportant, or insignificant event taking place in the country, it would have been reported in the news and fill their newspaper columns literally with

articles on the issue. If it were a simple hollow statement by a fame-thirsty person, the television crew would have hastened to film the 'speech'.

But as far as the news about the possible existence of oil is concerned, nobody seems to have cared to follow-up the story and find out more facts about the matter. Apparently, this has not been the kind of event that appeals to the public as significant.

There must have been good reasons behind keeping this news as brief as possible. The authorities have many considerations to take into account, these being technical, economic, and political. After all, the investigations have not yet been completed, and there is neither reason for raising false hopes, nor for a news blackout to be imposed.

But the publicity given to such an important venture, at least on a technical basis, has not been satisfactory. One would have expected newsmen to go to the site of the exploration and to report on the technical aspects of the operations and the scientists' expectations.

More clarification should have been forwarded to the public concerning the present and future local and world demand for oil, and what the explorations under way will mean in real terms, irrespective of their results.

Such issues should be discussed more widely and more openly during the various phases of exploration.

By Dr. Awn Rifai

Washington uneasy over

Salvadorean election results

By Bob Horton

WASHINGTON — President Reagan has demonstrated further evidence of Washington's growing unease over the possibility of an ultra-rightist government taking power in El Salvador.

While expressing pleasure at the large voter turnout in the elections held in the Central American state, the president issued a cautiously-phrased warning that the U.S. government would be unable to support an administration which ignored social reform. Asked at a press conference whether his administration could back a government headed by Roberto d'Aubuisson, a right-wing former army major, Mr. Reagan said: "It would give us great difficulty if a government appeared on the scene that totally turned away from the reforms that were instituted."

Mr. d'Aubuisson, described by former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Robert White as a "pathological killer," is considered by some members of the U.S. Congress to be responsible for much of the right-wing violence in the country. Some U.S. critics fear a government headed by him would bring a new level of violence if he fulfilled a promise to crush leftist guerrilla forces unless they put down their arms.

The current U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton was reported to have warned Mr. d'Aubuisson that U.S. aid to El Salvador could be jeopardised if he became president. This was not publicly confirmed by the State Department, which said the United States was not attempting to play the role of a political power broker in El Salvador.

Washington's favoured candidate for the Salvadorean lea-

dership is the incumbent president, Jose Napoleon Duarte, whose Centrist Christian Democrats won 40 per cent of the votes in the poll.

Elections indecisive

But the balance of the votes went to five parties on the right who were discussing an alliance to boot Mr. Duarte out of office even before the vote counting was final. If Mr. Duarte goes, so may a series of social and economic reform measures which the U.S. State Department says must be carried out if a new government is to retain Washington's support. State Department Spokesman Dean Fischer told reporters: "We consider it essential that whatever government emerges be committed to... land reform, the restoration of democratic institutions, restoration of the rule of law and elimination of human rights abuses."

Mr. Duarte's government had pursued reforms as a means of undercutting the leftists in El Salvador and also to meet U.S. conditions for economic and military assistance. El Salvador is receiving hundreds of millions of dollars in U.S. aid, which could end if the right-wing parties ignored Washington's concerns and installed a repressive regime. The Christian Democrats were insisting yesterday they would not weakly surrender to the rightists. "We are the most powerful single force in the country and we cannot be left out of the government," Christian Democrat Deputy-Elect Julio Adolfo Rey Prades told reporters. The Christian Democrats' challenge was to strike a political deal with suddenly strengthened right-wing forces who have bitterly opposed Mr. Duarte's role in taking land from the wealthy oligarchy and redistributing it to the poor.

Will El Salvador become the graveyard of communism?

By Harvey Morris

Reuter

SAN SALVADOR — The young businessman, a candidate in El Salvador elections, was euphoric about the outcome: "I believe Central America could now become the graveyard of communism."

But the pistol lying casually on his desk was a reminder of the chronic violence that afflicts the country despite what is being claimed by the government as a massive vote for peace. In the past two years, 30,000 people are reported to have been killed in political violence in El Salvador. In Nicaragua, a similar number were killed in the struggle that led to the overthrow of President Anastasio Somoza. In Guatemala, human rights groups allege at least 3,500 people died in political violence last year.

The Reagan administration in Washington blames the violence on communist subversion, masterminded by the Soviet Union, directed from Cuba and supplied from post-revolutionary Nicaragua. Some Western governments, however, accept the view of left-wingers in the region that social injustice is at the root of its guerrilla campaigns and that most of the violence is a result of official repression.

The United States has exerted powerful influence on all the central American states since their independence from Spain 150 years ago. Washington now fears that if any more move to the left, as Nicaragua has since the revolution in 1979, then communism will have a mainland base on



Duarte

America's doorstep. Some politicians in the region believe this concern has blinded the Reagan administration to the varying problems that face individual countries and the different natures of their guerrilla movements.

In Nicaragua, the guerrillas managed to gather around them a

broad-based coalition, which included conservatives and businessmen, to overthrow a president who maintained tight control over the country's economic and political life. Foreign reporters who covered the guerrilla war in Nicaragua recall that it was almost impossible to find anyone



D'Aubuisson

outside the security forces who would acknowledge supporting President Somoza. In El Salvador, however, voters turned out in numbers that surprised even the government to choose centrist and right-wing politicians despite left-wing claims that the elections would be a farce.

Rafael Somarriba Guevara, the Nicaraguan ambassador to El Salvador and a veteran guerrilla commander, said in an interview this week: "The whole Nicaraguan people was fighting against dictatorship but in El Salvador there are many classes and there are great distances between one class and another. This distance makes the fight very different." Denying U.S. charges that Nicaragua was promoting guerrilla war in El Salvador, Mr. Somarriba Guevara said: "For El Salvador, the real winner must be the whole people looking for peace." He also denied that revolt in Central America was automatically communist inspired. "I took part in my first guerrilla action when I was 17," said the 55-year-old ambassador, "and I never felt I was fighting for a communist revolution. I believe in freedom and in my country. My party is the Nicaragua party."

Mr. Somarriba Guevara acknowledged that he had fought in other guerrilla wars, including Cuba, but denied that Nicaragua was sending forces to El Salvador. "We used to go and fight elsewhere in return for help to fight Somoza. Now we are in power in Nicaragua and we know very well we have to be careful and respect the integrity of other countries," he said.

Use cautiously

THE WARNING by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait that they might apply sanctions against western oil companies that are pressuring Nigeria to reduce its oil price is a double-edged sword that has to be used with extreme caution. On the one hand, it is an old practice for western oil companies to work collectively to take advantage of weaknesses among individual oil-producing nations. Because most of the oil-producing states rely heavily on their oil income as their main source of revenue, their entire economic picture is inordinately vulnerable to a drop in oil sales. Therefore western oil companies, and even nations, have traditionally found it expedient to butt an oil-producing state by chipping away at its oil exports. Such is the case with Libya at present, and also with Nigeria.

It is important for the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) members to stand together in the face of such threats against any one of them. The unity and strength of purpose of OPEC will be severely challenged during the coming six months by western interests intent on dealing OPEC a crippling blow. The stronger members of OPEC, such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, are right to step in and defend the weaker links in the chain. But OPEC must also be careful to adhere to the principle of free market economic forces determining the price of oil, in good times as well as bad. Propping up artificially high prices in a glut era is bound to haunt the OPEC states at a later date. They should continue to focus on temporary production cutbacks as the best means of firming up the price of oil, while making sure the cutbacks are fairly distributed among the OPEC member states.

Jordan's commitment

AL RA'I: His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Saudi Arabia is a new step taken to discuss the new developments, as well as their repercussions and dimensions over the region in addition to Jordanian-Saudi relations. These developments can be seen in the Israeli practices and acts of aggression in the West Bank and Gaza and the protraction of the Iraq-Iran war. These incidents have dictated the King's visit to Saudi Arabia.

It should be pointed out that Jordan is stepping up its efforts which stem from Jordan's commitment to pan-Arab action. This principle has always served, as basis for Jordan's constructive activities on the Arab scene.

Jordan's pan-Arab commitment is also manifest in Jordan's efforts to build a united and practical Arab stand capable of enabling the Arabs to face up to the dangers threatening them. King Hussein's talks with King Khalid and with senior Saudi officials is a practical interpretation of the pan-Arab responsibility in which Jordan believes. These talks aim to wheel the Arabs towards confronting their various challenges.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

There is no doubt that these activities, led by King Hussein, will give a new impetus for the pan-Arab stand and give a more effective influence.

The King is right

AL DUSTOUR: It is very worrying to witness a grave situation, escalating in the region without anybody caring to try and defuse this explosive situation. The Israeli enemy is escalating its acts of terrorism against our people in the occupied territories and threatens to invade southern Lebanon. At the same time the Iranian enemy is revealing its ambition for expansion. All this is taking place while the rest of the world is watching without making any serious effort to put an end to these hostile movements before an explosion takes place in the region.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

5:30 Kuran
5:50 Cartoons
6:10 Children's Programme
6:35 Children's Programme
7:25 Local Programme
7:30 Special Programme on Development
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Arabic Series
9:30 Arabic Series
10:10 Local Programme
11:10 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French Programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Management
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Comedy: The Astronauts
9:10 Documentary: Diamonds in the sky
10:00 News in English
10:15 Dallas

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHZ, AM & 99 MHZ, FM

7:00 Sign on
7:01 Morning Show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning Show
7:45 News Headlines
8:00 Morning Show
8:05 30 Minute Theatre
8:30 News Bulletin
8:35 News Summary
8:40 Pop Session
8:45 News Bulletin
8:50 News Bulletin
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17:00 News Bulletin

POP Session

17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Over a Cup of Tea
18:30 Story Time
19:00 News Desk (News Bulletin, Press Review, News Reports)
19:30 News Reports
19:35 Instruments
20:30 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show
21:57 News Headlines
22:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHZ

GMT
06:00 Newscast 06:30 Country Style
06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections
07:00 World News; 24 Hours News
07:30 Summary 07:35 The Brotherhood of Brass 07:45 The World Today 08:00
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Yamani: If price cut pressure on Nigeria continues OPEC may impose sanctions

BONN (R) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani said Monday night OPEC countries may apply sanctions against oil companies pressing Nigeria to cut its oil price.

"We don't want to do that, but if it's a necessity, we will do it," he told reporters before making a speech here to the West German foreign policy association.

Most major international oil companies producing and buying crude oil in Nigeria have asked for a cut in the present Nigerian price of \$35.50 a barrel because of the world oil glut and lower prices being charged by other countries such as Britain.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Thursday OPEC could support the Nigerian price by putting pressure on oil companies, cutting Saudi oil output further, opening a credit line for Nigeria, or arranging the forward purchase of Nigerian oil by other OPEC countries.

Sheikh Yamani was asked if OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) was likely to hold an emergency meeting soon to discuss Nigeria.

He replied: "We are studying the situation right now... I think the situation will be very clear probably by the end of this week."

Nigeria was allocated an output ceiling of 1.3 million barrels per day (b/d) when OPEC ministers

set an overall limit of 18 million b/d at talks in Vienna last month on defending prices in the current oil glut.

But oil industry sources have estimated its output has slumped as low as 550,000 b/d since the talks as buyers wanting a price cut moved away.

Sheikh Yamani said his country would cut its oil production further if it felt this was necessary, but he refused to be drawn on the size of a possible reduction.

Saudi Arabia has already cut output by 500,000 b/d this month from the March level, lowering its ceiling to seven million b/d.

Asked whether Saudi Arabia had made or was likely to extend a credit line to Nigeria, Sheikh Yamani replied this would be considered if Nigeria sought such assistance, but Nigeria had not made a request yet.

Sheikh Yamani flew into Bonn from London this afternoon for the foreign policy association meeting, and was due to return to the British capital immediately after his speech.

In his speech, Sheikh Yamani warned that the world could soon face another energy crisis if oil

consuming nations continued to run down their stocks of crude at the current estimated rate of about four million b/d.

He said oil consumption by "free world" economies in the first three months of 1982 was 47 million b/d and production by OPEC and non-OPEC producers only around 43 million b/d, with the difference coming from stocks.

Stock depletion was a mistake, he said, as consumer nations would face serious trouble if they

had insufficient reserves to fall back on in the event of a halt to oil supplies in a future crisis.

"If there is an interruption in our area (Middle East), and our area is full of surprises, you might find yourselves very vulnerable," he said.

Sheikh Yamani said he considered the present oil glut was temporary and would be corrected as Western economies started to recover.

North Americans, Japanese and Europeans conclude private forum

TOKYO (A.P.) — Some 150 top North American, Japanese and European business and political leaders Tuesday concluded the 13th meeting of the Trilateral Commission with discussions on economic relations with the Communist bloc and a look at U.S. economic policies.

Participants in the three-day meeting also discussed further a topic that has been a focus of this session of the nine-year-old organisation—Japan's trade surpluses with the other two partners in the commission.

Trade and defence, said former Chase Manhattan Bank Chairman David Rockefeller, are the two major sources of misunderstanding between the United States and Japan.

In a post-session briefing Mr. Rockefeller added, however, that the degree of hard feelings between the two sides has been exaggerated. "Just as in any family, one has squabbles and disagreements," he said.

Georges Berthoin, European chairman of the trilateral commission, said Japan, which in the past has tended to shy away from independent political and diplomatic stances, has played a leading role in the workings of the commission.

Poland clears major obstacle by signing accord with West

FRANKFURT, West Germany (R) — Poland signed an agreement Tuesday to reschedule \$2.4 billion that it owed Western banks last year, clearing the way for early negotiations on its 1982 commercial debts.

The signing, three months late, ended nearly 12 months of delicate negotiations to prevent a loan default and give Warsaw a breathing space on its total Western debts of \$26 billion. The negotiations to defer repayments were interrupted by the declaration of martial law in December.

While the accord clears a major

obstacle in Poland's tangled financial affairs with the West, bankers said several more hurdles lie ahead, including the \$10.4 billion falling due for repayment to governments and banks this year—a sum far exceeding Poland's means.

Dresdner Bank, the West German Bank serving as international agent for the 1981 rescheduling, said in a brief statement after the signing that negotiations in Polish debt due to banks this year should begin as soon as possible.

The agreement was signed for Poland by Deputy Finance Minister Witold Bien, the president of

the Handlowy Foreign Trade Bank, Marian Minkiewicz, and representatives of 20 banks.

The agreement delays for seven years repayment of some 95 per cent of the money Poland owed 501 Western banks in the last nine months of 1981. The remaining five per cent, some \$126 million, will have to be paid back this year, in three instalments due on May 15, Aug. 15 and Nov. 15.

Bankers said Poland would have to meet the interest payments due this year on the amount rescheduled, which will come to more than \$50 million, and must pay the banks a fee of \$24 million

for the rescheduling agreement itself.

For the hard-pressed Polish economy, keeping up with these payments will be difficult, and bankers said that it was only with the material and financial aid of the Soviet Union that Polish managed to make up its arrears from last year.

At the time martial law was declared in Poland on Dec. 13, Poland still owed Western banks about \$500 million in interest due for 1981, but gradually whittled down the sum over the last four months.

Dollar and gold rise, pound tumbles

LONDON (A.P.) — The dollar gained against key currencies for the second straight day Tuesday and the pound sterling tumbled 1½ cents to \$1.7552, its lowest level since mid-1977.

The price of gold rose by \$10 an ounce, boosted by concern about the Falklands Islands confrontation between Britain and Argentina.

Bullion prices, also helped by technical factors, have risen about \$25 since last Wednesday. Gold is traditionally a haven in times of uncertainty.

The pound opened at \$1.7605 against Monday's late rate of \$1.77. By mid-morning it had slumped to 1.7552.

Dealers voiced concern that sterling will continue to weaken over the next two weeks while a British

fleet sails for the Falklands in the South Atlantic, seized by Argentine forces last Friday.

"The pound's fall has gone beyond a joke," a London dealer said. "Unless the Bank of England steps in with either major intervention on the foreign exchange market or raises interest rates there's a danger the slide will continue."

Dealers have reported some low-level intervention by the Bank of England, but there was no indication of any major move to prop up the pound.

THE LONDON EXCHANGE RATES report does not appear today due to poor reception of wire services.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market extended Monday's decline on fresh selling, with the possible repercussions from the Falkland Islands crisis still dominating market sentiment, dealers said.

However, the mid-March banking statistics prompted a technical rally, leaving prices above the day's lows. At 1500 the F.T. index was down 11.5 at 548.4 after a morning low of 542.3.

Government bonds ended with net falls of up to 1½ points and losses among equities ranged to 17p. Gold and North American stocks ended mixed.

GEC closed 17p down at 802 after a low of 797. BAT industries was 13p off at 400 after 391 and Blue Circle ended 12p lower at 444 after 436p.

Other leading issues showed net falls of up to 8p but Glaxo was 2p higher on balance at 554, drawing strength from Monday's interim results, and Bowater was a penny up at 239 after full year results.

Banks closed mixed, with Lloyds bank unchanged at 418 after 415 while Barclays was 3p higher at 438p.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

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Knows a cold glass of draught beer and a game of darts in a truly English Pub atmosphere at the Shepherd's Pub.
Open 12 noon to 1 a.m.
Snacks & drinks served.

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SPORTS

Lendl defeats Rebolledo, McNamara upset at Monte Carlo Grand Prix

MONTE CARLO (A.P.) — Top seed Ivan Lendl, who has just wrested the No. 2 spot in the world rankings from American Jimmy Connors, advanced to the second round of the \$300,000 Monte Carlo Grand Prix tennis tournament with a 7-5, 6-2 victory Tuesday over Pedro Rebolledo of Chile. "It was the first time I've played on clay since November," said the 22-year-old Czech, who saved two set points before taking the first set on an 8-6 tie-breaker.

West German Peter Elter, a 23-year-old ranked 107th, scored the first upset of the week-long tournament with a 6-3, 6-3 win Tuesday over fifth seed Peter McNamara of Australia, who is ranked ninth in the world.

Other seeded players fared better. No. 3 seed Jose-Luis Clerc ousted Italian Gianni Occhipio 6-2, 7-5 after a difficult second set. The

23-year-old Argentine, ranked fifth, was down 5-1 before he made an amazing comeback—winning the next six games and taking the match on an ace.

Czech Tomas Smid, the No. 8 seed, had little difficulty in defeating Mario Martinez of Bolivia, 6-1, 6-3.

Lendl won a Grand Prix tournament in Frankfurt Sunday and then climbed up one notch in the rankings. He is trying for his first title at Monte Carlo and then plans to play in tournaments in Houston, Dallas, Madrid, Dusseldorf and Tokyo before the French Open begins in May.

"I haven't yet decided if I'll play Wimbledon this year," Lendl said. "I'm not going to make a decision until around the French Open."

Lendl said he might like to rest for a month after the French Open, the first of the four Grand

Slam events.

"If I'm not tired after the French Open, I'll play Wimbledon," he said. "But if I am feeling tired, I'm going to be thinking about it. I've had a very heavy schedule—I haven't stopped for nearly three years."

He also criticised the organisation at Wimbledon.

"Obviously, Wimbledon is not the most favourite tournament for players," the Czech star said.

Bjorn Borg, now ranked sixth, also has not yet said if he plans to play at Wimbledon this year. The 25-year-old Swede won his first-round match Monday after having to qualify to enter the tournament because of his decision to play in less than 10 Grand Prix events this year.

Borg and Lendl are expected to meet in the semifinals at Monte Carlo Saturday if neither of them suffer a defeat before then.

Jordanian Tennis Open finals end Friday

By Nujoud Goussous
Special to the Jordan Times

Sixty of the top Jordanian tennis players this week have been participating in the Jordanian Tennis Open Championship which ends Friday. The Director of Public Affairs at the King Hussein Sports City, Mr. Wakkas Tal, told the Jordan Times: "The competitors taking part in the championship, from the women's singles, are, Lisa Tal, Sireen Hidayat, Carol Ashur, Rana Nijem, Audette Atallah, Mayada Abu Eiseh, Shala Ashur, and for the men's singles, Abdallah Al Khalil, Hani Al Ali, Talal Maher, Naser Mirza, and Mohamed Idwan."

"The Tennis Open started last week after the Club Championships ended on Wednesday, March 31. Abdallah Al Khalil won the men's singles, and Taj Kokhazian (India) won the women's singles. The Club Championships usually include all nationalities, whereas the Jordanian Championships is restricted to Jordanians," said Mr. Ghazi Shihab, a Sports City official.

The Tennis Open includes men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles, and mixed doubles.

"Friday's programme," concluded Mr. Shihab, will start with the men's doubles, women's doubles, mixed doubles, and end at nearly 3 p.m. with the singles for men and women.

Aston Villa bids to keep European trophy in England

LONDON (A.P.) — Aston Villa manager Tony Barton is looking for a two-goal advantage when his team meets Anderlecht of Belgium in the first leg of the European Champions' Cup semifinal at Villa Park Wednesday night.

Aston Villa is bidding to keep the trophy in England for the sixth straight year and Barton is confident of at least reaching the final.

"I think we can do it, and go on to uphold the tradition set by Nottingham Forest and Liverpool," said Barton. Nottingham Forest won the tournament in 1979 and 1980, while Liverpool won it in 1977, 1978 and 1981 but lost to CSKA Sofia of Bulgaria in this season's quarterfinals.

Barton, appointed official successor to Ron Saunders three weeks ago, said: "We know how important it is to keep a clean sheet on Wednesday night. The

aim is go to Brussels with a two goal lead."

Midfield players Des Bremner and Dennis Mortimer both have recovered from minor injuries and will play, but England winger Tony Morley and strike pair Gary Shaw and Peter Withe pose the major threats to the Belgian team.

Barton must have been heartened when he watched Anderlecht lose 1-0 to Ghent in a league match Sunday, and the Belgian champions will be without suspended midfielder ace Juan Lozano for the first leg.

But the English team's manager is taking nothing for granted.

"Anderlecht are very strong defensively, it is going to be a real job to outwit them," he said.

CSKA Sofia, impressive victors over Liverpool, host Bayern Munich three-time winners of the European title, in the other semifinal Bayern could only draw 1-1 with Cologne in a weekend league match but were boosted by the return of international Karl-Heinz Rummennigge, who was out of action for nearly a month with a leg injury.

Rummennigge, Paul Breitner and Dieter Hoernes give Munich the look of potential European champions, but CSKA—with Mladenov an outstanding forward—will be no push-over.

Tottenham, winners in 1979, host Barcelona, victors in the same competition in 1979, at

White Hart Lane in the semifinal first leg in the European Cup Winners' Cup. The other semi is between the powerful Soviet team Dinamo Tbilisi and Standard Liege of Belgium.

Tottenham will be without midfielder Osi Ardiles, who has returned to South America to join the Argentine World Cup squad, and suspended Scottish international striker Steve Archibald.

Striker Garth Crooks has a leg strain and defender Graham Roberts a groin injury, but both are expected to play. Argentine international Ricardo Villar is certain to replace Ardiles.

"Our style is to attack, and if possible entertain," said Tottenham manager Keith Burkenshaw. "That will be our aim, even though it looks as if I shall be forced to shape a different side."

Barcelona also have injury problems—West German Bernd Schuster has a knee injury—but Tottenham will need to guard against rapid counter-attacks involving Dane Allan Simonsen and veteran Enrique Castro (Quini).

Kaiserslautern are fairly ordinary this season, although Jochen Hees, although a player of international quality and a certain World Cup star in Spain but should still see of Götterberg, who have done remarkably well to reach this stage.

Non-American field poses threat in 46th Masters tourney

AUGUSTA, Georgia (A.P.) — The foreign field, gaining in strength as the overall level of world golf improves, poses a decided threat to the 46th Masters.

"The level of competition around the world has improved enormously in the last few years," said Gary Player, perhaps the game's most dedicated globe-trotter. "At one time, when the top American players went abroad, they were expected to win almost routinely. And, often, they did."

"But that's no longer true. Watson and Trevino and Nicklaus play abroad and they may not win. Watson plays in Japan and doesn't win. Trevino plays in Japan and Australia and doesn't win. Nicklaus plays in Australia and doesn't always win. Bill Rogers played in South Africa and didn't win."

"It's becoming more and more difficult, even for the greatest players, to win in foreign tournaments, simply because the level of play in those tournaments is getting better and better."

The leaders of those foreign tours and some of the non-Americans who have played with regularity and considerable success on the U.S. tour are gathered in Augusta this week and form a tight little cadre that could produce the winner of the famed Green Jacket.

Chief among them are the only two foreign winners of this title,

Player and Seve Ballesteros of Spain.

A pair of Australians, David Graham and Greg Norman, Isao Aoki of Japan and, possibly, Bernhard Langer of West Germany, won credentials that insist their chances are better than average in the storied old tournament that begins Thursday on the rolling hills of the Augusta National Golf Club course.

Player acquired his third Masters title, and the last of his nine majors, in 1978. He is now 46, however, and hasn't won on the U.S. tour in more than three years. But the determined rancher from Johannesburg won twice in his native South Africa early this season, including his 13th South African Open title.

"I know I can still win over here. I just know it," Player said.

Ballesteros, who took the title in 1980, is the only other foreigner to win the Masters and, at 25, generally is regarded as the non-Americans most likely to succeed again. The dashing young Spaniard—dark, handsome and a gallery favorite—has harnessed some of his enormous power, drives within the confines of the golf course with more regularity and has the putting touch necessary for success at Augusta National. A former British Open champion, he also won the World Match play championship late last year.

Graham is an established,

world-class player. He's the current U.S. Open title-holder, securing that championship with one of the great rounds of golf. He is a former U.S. PGA title-holder, has won on five continents and has a history of good play in this event, finishing seventh or better in his last two starts.

Norman, 27, is a strong-jawed macho type who lists his recreation as shooting sharks. Extremely long—"It's a par 68 course for him," Tom Watson said—Norman made his mark in America last year, finishing fourth in both the Masters and PGA.

Langer, 25, led the European order of merit last year and chased Bill Rogers to the British Open

title. The return of some putting problems cut deeply into his chances, however.

Putting, however, is the strong point for Aoki. Although his putting style is unusual—hands low with the toe of the putter raised off the ground—it is among the most effective in the world.

The 39-year-old, long the dominant player in Japan, has been a regular on the American tour for a year.

Other foreign entrants include England's Peter Oosterhuis, the current Canadian Open titleholder, Dave Barr of Canada, Yutaka Hagawa of Japan and Philippe Ploujoux of France, the current British Amateur champion.

Wimbledon has weathered worse dilemmas than stubborn Borg

WIMBLEDON, England (A.P.) — If Bjorn Borg has to qualify for Wimbledon, it will shake the Bank of England. But it will not move the All-England Tennis Club, the institution that rides every calamity and goes its own way.

The Bank of England owns the little tennis club at Roehampton, where every year 32 lesser players compete in qualifying tournament for the last Wimbledon places.

I should think the Bank of England will be jolly worried if Borg has to play there," said Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett, Chairman of the All-England Club.

"There are no facilities for spectators or security. They will just have to do without spectators. None will be allowed in if Borg plays," Burnett goes to Monte Carlo this week to consult the Professional Tennis Council on the strange affair of Borg, five times Wimbledon champion and the world's undisputed No. 1 until John McEnroe took his crown last year.

Under the rules, Borg must either play in a minimum of 10 Grand Prix tournaments in 1982 or qualify for Wimbledon like any unknown newcomer to the circuit. Until now he has not agreed to do either.

If Borg does not play at Wimbledon at all, a lot of fans will be disappointed. But the All-England Club has taken bigger disasters in its stride.

In 1973 almost the entire squad of professionals walked out of Wimbledon at short notice in a dispute over Yugoslavia's Nikki Pilic, who was suspended because he refused to play for his country in the Davis Cup.

That might have been expected

to kill Wimbledon as a spectacle. Instead the crowds were among the highest of all time.

Wimbledon is Wimbledon and has been the world's No. 1 tennis tournament since 1877. It's a great social occasion and the crowds pour into the grounds of the All-England Club whatever happens.

Burnett said he and his committee have "a very clear view" of what should be done about Borg. But he didn't say what it was.

The whole professional tennis circuit got going in a big way in 1968 because Wimbledon defied the International Tennis Federation and ran an open tournament, for professionals and amateurs. Any other tournament would have been disowned or suspended. Wimbledon had its own way and carried the world with it.

It remains true to its traditions, defying change in the tennis world.

Ferrari not commenting on rumours of withdrawal from '82 season

MARANELLO, Italy (A.P.) — Growing rumours that Ferrari, Italy's prestigious Formula-One team, might withdraw from the 1982 World Championship following bitter controversies about technical regulations of races, produced a flat "no comment" by high ranking company officials here Tuesday.

"We are aware of rumours, but have nothing to say about it," a Ferrari spokesman said.

The Italian company headed by Enzo Ferrari, with a tradition of Formula-One triumphs and "loyalty" to rules, has been protesting this season what Ferrari sources have called "tricks" by British makers to artificially reduce weight of cars for facing the overwhelming power of turbocharged Ferrari and Renault engines.

Rumours of a sensational withdrawal of Ferrari, to protest lack of action by the sanctioning body (FISA) against the allegedly illegal lighter racers, were first circulated in Long Beach, after Sunday's U.S. Grand Prix West won by Niki Lauda.

Ferrari officials were also angered by the decision of U.S. sporting stewards to disqualify Canada's Gilles Villeneuve, who finished third in the race, on the grounds his Ferrari car was supplied with an "illegal" additional stabiliser.

The fourth event of the Formula-One championship and the first European race—the Grand Prix of San Marino—is scheduled on the "home" track of Ferrari, the nearby Imola, April 25.

It sticks to grass courts, although the U.S. Open has gone over to cement and European stars grumble that grass is meant for cattle to graze on.

It's the only major tennis tournament in the world that is not commercially sponsored. It has had offers of sponsorship and turned them all down, because Wimbledon doesn't need it.

Financially Wimbledon cannot go wrong. Last year it made so much money it handed over about \$2 million to the British Lawn Tennis Association to help development of the game.

This year it is increasing its prize money by 84 per cent, paying out \$1.06 million.

One day has been added to the tournament this year, with the men's singles and men's doubles finals on a Sunday. That is worth an extra \$750,000 in television revenue.

But it has slightly dented the traditional Wimbledon formula.

The centre court spectators, who are paying more than ever for seats, will see less tennis some days. The singles quarterfinals will be spread over four days instead of two.

And the hundreds who sleep on the sidewalks on the last nights of the tournament, waiting for standing places on semifinals and finals days, will not be doing it this year. They will have to apply for tickets by mail in advance—like the 250,000 or so who buy seats.

The sidewalk campers are an old feature of Wimbledon. Sometimes fans slept out for three nights to see the final.

They have been stopped on a sound legal excuse. British law forbids any money being taken at the gate of a sport event on a Sunday, although tickets may be purchased in advance.

Indian cricket leader criticises Kallicharran

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (A.P.) — A top Indian cricket official has criticised West Indian cricket star Alvin Kallicharran for playing in this white-minority-ruled nation.

Ahmed Mangera, President of the Transvaal Cricket Board, said Tuesday that Kallicharran's decision to play with a team of the

rival South African Cricket Council has set back "the cause of black people in South Africa."

The cricket board supports the international isolation of South African cricket teams because of the country's apartheid (racial separation) policies. The SACC, which is multi-racial, claims apartheid has been removed from

South African sport.

Kallicharran, on the eve of his departure from South Africa after playing with Kobinnor-Crescents team from the Indian township of Lenasia near Johannesburg, said he would be returning later in the year to complete his contract.

He told the Daily Mail of Johannesburg: "I have no regrets about taking up this contract. It has given me a chance of seeing first-hand the development of cricket in South Africa. And I will take home the message that cricket in this country is organised on a totally non-racial basis and that every opportunity is being taken to develop the game here for boys of all races."

Kallicharran also said the 12-year isolation of South Africa from world cricket was a tragedy. He added he was pleased to have had time to coach many young players of all races.

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A swift start to snow skating in the Bavarian Alps



PFRONTEN (DaD) — Michael Gayer, a former skiing ace, has just launched the first snow skating school in Germany. It is at Pfronten in the Bavarian Alps and the new sport, known as snow surfing in German, has got off to a flying start. It will be featured at this year's ISPO, the Munich sports trade fair, which specialises in winter sports, and many of the 1,129 exhibitors from 29 countries will be keen to learn more about this latest craze.

Hagler to defend title against Tom Hearn

MEXICO CITY (A.P.) — World middle weight champion Marvin Hagler will defend his title May 24 against super welter challenger Tom Hearn, the World Boxing Council announced.

The council said Monday night that it was a voluntary defence and added that the match had been approved.

The council said a majority of its members had approved the fight but specified that the winner of the battle will have to go against off-

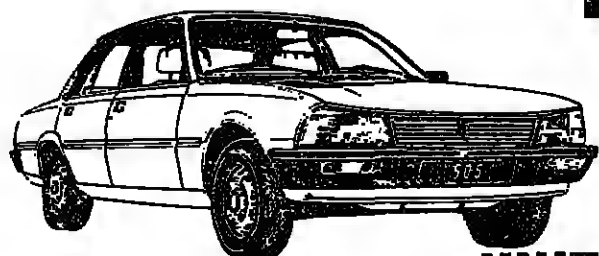
icial number one challenger Tony Season of England. The World Boxing Association (WBA), which recognises Hagler, also has approved the bout.

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FEATURES

Prepare for age of aging

THIS IS THE AGE of aging. As more people are living into their 60s than ever before, so the entire structure of world population is changing. "This is a unique demographic fact," says William Kerrigan, secretary-general of the United Nations World Assembly on Aging, "that must be fixed in the minds of government decision-makers." In 1975 there were only six countries with a gray generation numbering over 10 million, by 2025 there will be 19.

World population is aging faster than ever. While total population is expected to treble between 1950 and 2025, the United Nations predicts a five-fold increase in the over-60s. This means one person in seven will be over 60 in 2025, compared with just one in every 12 in 1950.

And the effects will be felt by everyone — young and old alike. A billion over-60s in 2025 must be fed. But there will be relatively fewer people of working age around to provide for them. Only by harnessing the skills of the elderly alongside the strength of the young can we prevent the aging becoming an ever-increasing burden to us all.

Why this dramatic shift?

Two well-established trends are causing this dramatic shift in population structure — fewer babies and longer lives. While world birth rates will be cut by half between 1950 and 2025, average life expectancy is predicted to rise from 47 to 70 years. The result is that the population pyramid is being turned upside down. For centuries

the very young have outnumbered the old: In 1950 there were nearly two under fives for every person over 60. But by 2025 grandparents will outnumber babies by two to one.

Long life is a major achievement of the twentieth century. Improvements in health, hygiene and nutrition mean more and more people have the chance to reach their natural 75-year life span.

In Britain today, 75 per cent of all deaths occur after age 65, but in developing countries families must still mourn their children: Forty per cent of deaths are amongst under-fives — victims of diseases of poverty, like malnutrition and malaria. This is where the fight to improve health care is taking great effect — and the most dramatic aging of populations will be in poor countries that are beginning to win their battles against disease. Successful family planning programmes will multiply the effects — fewer babies will be born, existing generations will live longer and the whole population will grow older.

Delayed effects

But because today's teenagers will take another fifty years to grow old the effects of these changes will be delayed. In fact the proportion of over-60s in the world's population increases very little before the year 2000 — babies and children are surviving, but have yet to grow old. But by 2025, the proportion of over-60s will have jumped by 40 per cent, and countries like Bangladesh, Brazil,

Mexico and Nigeria will see numbers of over-60s increase by up to 15 times.

Developing countries everywhere will feel the sharpest effects of aging. In 1975 the Third World held three-quarters of the world's people but only half of the over-60s. By 2025 its share of the over-60s will have grown to three-quarters.

According to reports prepared by the U.N. for July's World Assembly on Aging this rapid aging of populations is the predictable outcome of better living standards and an emphasis on improved health care. But in many countries people are given long life with one hand, only to see the means to enjoy it taken away with the other.

Modern industry is not interested in old people. It demands the education and skills of the young. And, as the young are tempted into the world's growing cities, old people are left without help in the countryside and without a job in the city. Without education or wage employment old people lose their traditional status — and become, says the U.N., "passive and vulnerable victims of development."

Response from the world

The world has begun to respond to the needs of the elderly. Social security systems have been set up to try to cushion the old against their enforced redundancy. At least 120 countries now offer a pension to retired workers. But most developing countries are only able to provide for a minority in wage employment. The 80 per cent who get no regular wage and are not entitled to a pension just cannot afford to retire.

In developing countries aging populations will mean more old people left to fend for themselves. In industrialised countries, with compulsory retirement and where the majority of over-60s are fit and healthy, this growing proportion of the old means radical changes in the structure of the

workforce.

People today are growing old faster than children are being born to support them in their old age. In 1950 there were only 19 over-60s for every 100 adults aged between 15 and 59. By 2025 there will be more than twice that number. In Austria there are already only two workers for every person receiving a pension.

Most social security systems tax the existing workforce to finance the pensions of retired people. But workers of the future may be unwilling to provide for an increasing number of old people — and governments will face demands for reduced expenditure on pensions. Some are already considering lowering the retirement age as a means of solving youth unemployment — and so adding to the numbers of unproductive old. But the World Assembly on Aging warns that this may be nothing more than a "short-term, partial solution of one social problem through the creation of another" and urges a search for alternatives that emphasise the productive involvement of the aged, not just their protection and care.

Calls for reduced pension expenditure may soon be matched by another clamour. As the aged cease to be a tiny minority, so they will grow into a political force. By 2025 one in three voters in industrialised countries will be over 60. With old people as the major consumers of health care it has already been predicted that the "senior vote" will shape the future of health policy in the U.S.

In future it will be harder to ignore the interests of the aging. But this does not necessarily mean narrow emphasis on the needs of the over-60s. Maggie Kuhn, founder of the U.S. Gray Panthers, argues that "aging is the one thing we all share". Today's young are tomorrow's old: It is in everyone's interests to work for a secure future.

United Nations feature

Battered claypot yields information on the secret skills of goldsmiths who lived three thousands years ago.

The treasure that was not legendary: Abandoned hoard from Homer's time

By Kerin Hope
The Associated Press

ATHENS—The archaeologists almost believed they were unearthing the legendary treasure at the Rainbow's End — a crock of gold hidden beneath an ancient building on the island of Euboea.

In fact the battered clay pot decorated with circles and zigzags contained a goldsmith's hoard that had lain undisturbed since Homer's time.

Sometime around 730 B.C., an anonymous craftsman swept more than 150 pieces of unfinished jewelry and unworked gold into a household drinking cup and buried it under the floor for safekeeping.

But some unknown disaster struck the ancient town of Eretria — perhaps an enemy attack — and the goldsmith never recovered his hoard.

"We found the lidded skyphos, cracked but complete, tucked against a curving wall in a building destroyed and abandoned in the late Geometric Period," archaeologist Petros Themelis said in an interview. "It's a unique find for Greece."

It's the first time anyone has found a combination of unworked gold and unfinished jewelry from that period in Greece. It's also significant because it's a large amount of gold for that early period.

Eretria, now a sleepy summer resort overlooking Attica's east coast across a narrow strip of sea, was a flourishing port and trading centre almost three thousand years ago.

Mr. Themelis, excavating there for the Greek Archaeological Society, made his find while digging a group of buildings close to what

may be the early town's fortification wall.

"I suspect this part of town was also close to a temple," Mr. Themelis said. "Our goldsmith could have been employed in a nearby workshop following the ancient pattern of locating craftsmen near the sanctuary they worked for."

The skyphos or drinking cup held just over 500 grammes of soft yellow gold. Some ornaments were shaped like oversized teardrops. Another cone-shaped amulet had been cast in a seashell.

There were broken fibulae, or gold safety-pin brooches, a length of crumpled gold wire and a diadem of thin gold sheet decorated with horses and lions that was flayed during a hammering process, Mr. Themelis said.

"It's as if the metalworker hastily collected what was on his workbench, in the face of an enemy attack, and buried it in his drinking cup," the archaeologists said.

Who was the ancient goldsmith? Not an outstanding craftsman, according to the archaeologist, because his jewelry was simple in style, but a local artisan, perhaps even a slave, who worked on gold supplied by a leading town magistrate or merchant.

From studying the dozens of small lumps of unworked gold found in the cup, Mr. Themelis concluded the Eretria goldsmith was both metallurgist and jeweller, refining local ore or alluvial gold himself before working it into ornaments.

"The early Greek metalworkers were regarded with mistrust and awe, rather like magicians," he said. "They had a secret skill and the jewelry they made wasn't just for personal adornment. It was also a protective talisman for the wearer."

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Answer: "Comes under pressure when a driver steps on it—THE PEDAL"

THE BETTER HALF By Vinson

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"YES, it's salty enough! Are you serving it in a bowl or a SHAKER?"

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, APR. 7, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope
from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Much confusion can reign early in the day, so be prepared for it and later you can accomplish much of value. Concentrate upon being more progressive in your activities.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Discuss mutual duties with co-workers and increase harmony. Avoid one who is trying to impose on you to some way.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Put a talent to work that will help you advance in career matters. Look on the bright side of life instead of the dull.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study new interests that could prove to be profitable in the future. Strive to be more efficient in your work.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You find it easy to get your ideas across to others today, so get busy on them early. Strive for happiness.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Studying new ways to add to income and to savings account is wise. Be sure to keep important promises you have made.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Know what it is you want of a personal nature and be wise in going after it. Handle business affairs wisely.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Talks with higher-ups can produce fine results at this time. The planets are favorable for advancing in career matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be sure of facts and figures when dealing with others today. You can gain personal aims easily at this time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Doing whatever is required to gain the goodwill of higher-ups is wise today. Stop wasting precious time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Show others that you understand their problems and are willing to help them. Sidestep a troublemaker.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study your financial arrangements and know better where you stand and how to invest wisely. Plan for the future.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Following through with what is expected of you by associates gains the backing for the future. Think constructively.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will want to live a well-ordered kind of life, with many routines that have proven successful and this will be the secret of success here. There is also much artistic ability in this chart.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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THE Daily Crossword By Jack Luzzatto

ACROSS
1 Market places of Greece
7 Amusement centers
14 Inventions
16 Attire
17 Fast dance
18 Fine performer
19 Like the driven snow
20 US fighter plane
22 Barracuda
23 Sesame
24 Arabian tambourine
25 Office holders

DOWN
26 Catch on an obstruction
28 Droop in the heat
29 Scuffle
31 Historic
33 Ill temper
34 Fall-sate
36 Knightly suits
39 Ejecting tram office
42 Facial adornment
43 Antic
44 A Charles
46 Cleaning cloth
47 Grit
48 Man of the house

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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39 EJECTING TRAM OFFICE
42 FACIAL ADORNMENT
43 ANTIC
44 A CHARLES
46 CLEANING CLOTH
47 GRIT
48 MAN OF THE HOUSE

Peanuts

OKAY, TROOPS... IT'S BEDTIME

I HOPE THAT SLEEPING ON THE GROUND DOESN'T BOTHER YOU...

IT DOESN'T?

I CAN SEE WHY...

Mutt 'n' Jeff

GARGLE GARGLE

THAT'S MY MUM-IN-LAW — ALWAYS LENDS ME ENOUGH TO TIDE ME UNDER

Andy Capp

WONDER IF SHE GOT THAT LOAN FOR ME?

ANY LUCK, PET?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61

WORLD

Haig defends nuclear policy, attacks Soviet freeze offer

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Secretary of State Alexander Haig Tuesday strongly defended the U.S. policy of nuclear deterrence, declaring that no other measure can restore a strategic balance with the Soviet Union and reduce the risks of nuclear war. Mr. Haig spoke one day after President Ronald Reagan declared he hoped to meet with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev this summer to discuss global reductions in nuclear weapons.

Mr. Haig attacked the concept of a global freeze on nuclear weapons, as urged by a group of senators and a growing number of communities around the country. Such a freeze at current levels "would perpetuate an unstable and unequal military balance," Mr. Haig said.

"It would reward a decade of Soviet military buildup, and penalise the United States for a decade of unilateral restraint," he said.

"Such a freeze would remove all Soviet incentive to engage in meaningful arms control designed to cut armaments and reduce the risk of war," Mr. Haig said.

Speaking before Georgetown University's Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Mr. Haig said those who advocate a buildup of U.S. nuclear forces in the name of deterrence and future arms control share the same moral values as those who advocate a nuclear freeze.

"By maintaining the military balance and sustaining deterrence, we protect the essential values of Western civilisation," Mr. Haig said.

"In failing to maintain deterrence, we would risk our freedoms, while actually increasing the likelihood of also suffering nuclear devastation."

Reaffirming his opinion that the Soviet Union has an edge over the United States in nuclear weaponry, Mr. Reagan suggested

Monday that he and Mr. Brezhnev address a United Nations disarmament conference and meet afterward to discuss "arms reduction" and "arms control."

The president told reporters he was not suggesting "a full-blown summit conference" between the leaders of the two superpowers.

"I think that if he (Mr. Brezhnev) is here and we both bring up (arms control), I think it would be well if he and I had a talk," Mr. Reagan said.

The U.N. conference, focusing on what Mr. Reagan called "one of the most important things facing us," is to meet between June 7 and July 9 in New York City.

Mr. Reagan, who travels to Europe in early June for economic and NATO discussions with U.S. allies, said he plans to address the meeting upon his return.

He said he did not know whether Mr. Brezhnev is healthy enough to participate in the U.N. conference, adding, "I hope very much that President Brezhnev will be on hand to address the group."

Despite criticism that he overstated his case, Mr. Reagan refused to recant his opinion, stated at a news conference last Wednesday, that the Soviet Union has "a definite margin of nuclear superiority" over the United States.

New Foreign Secretary Pym: An outspoken troubleshooter

LONDON (R) — Francis Pym, appointed Britain's new foreign secretary Monday when Lord Carrington resigned over the Falklands crisis, is a trouble-shooter used to being in the thick of the fray.

An orthodox Conservative from a political family in the ruling party's traditional mould, he has had differences with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

When things have seemed to be going against her and there have been mutterings of discontent among Conservatives, Mr. Pym has been one of the first names mentioned as an alternative leader.

A rich landowner with an amiable manner and slicked-down hair, Mr. Pym has spoken openly in contradiction of Mrs. Thatcher's line on economic policy.

Such outspokenness has led him into trouble with the prime minister.

Mrs. Thatcher made him defence minister when she came to power in May 1979 but shifted him last year because he differed with her on defence spending.

He opposed her plan to reduce conventionally-armed forces and use the money saved for the new submarine-based Trident nuclear missile.

Mr. Pym became leader of the House of Commons and later

Lord President of the council — positions which involve managing the government's legislative and other business in parliament.

When Mrs. Thatcher came to power, Lord Carrington made clear to Mrs. Thatcher that he would accept the post of foreign secretary or nothing.

Mr. Pym, who had been Conservative opposition spokesman on foreign affairs during the tenure of the previous Labour government, was bitterly disappointed.

But the ex-cavalry officer settled for the defence ministry.

Mr. Pym got his first cabinet job in the administration of Edward Heath, Conservative prime minister from 1970 to 1974.

He became Northern Ireland secretary in December, 1975, but three months later the Heath government was ousted in a general election in the wake of a coalminers' strike, robbing Mr. Pym of the chance to pursue a power-sharing arrangement between rival Protestants and Catholics in the troubled province.

The son of a member of parliament with four other MPs among his ancestors, he is descended from John Pym, who led the parliamentary opposition to King Charles the First.

Mr. Pym, 60, is married with two sons and two daughters.

Salvador talks continue despite politician's killing

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Talks on forming a new Salvadoran government continued despite the murder of a deputy-elect from a leading party, political sources said Monday.

David Joaquin Quinteros, of the ultra-right Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena), died Sunday after being kidnapped in his car on Saturday, shot in the head and left for dead on a suburban rubbish dump.

Mr. Quinteros, a 42-year-old rancher, was one of 19 Arena candidates elected to a constituent assembly last week. His party and its four rightist allies say that with 36 of the 60 seats they are entitled to form a government.

The centrist Christian Democratic Party, which has ruled with the military for the past two years, nevertheless is claiming a major role in government on the strength of its 24 seats.

Arena sources said talks on forming a government were going ahead. Individual members of the Christian Democratic Party would

be invited to join a government of national unity, but not the party itself, they added.

The rightist parties have made clear they will not accept the current junta president and Christian Democratic leader, Jose Napoleon Duarte.

Informed sources said the Christian Democratic foreign minister, Fidel Chaves Mena, was emerging as a possible member of a rightist-dominated government.

The assembly, not expected to meet for at least 10 days, will have the task of appointing a provisional president pending general elections next year.

Leftist guerrillas, fighting to topple the present U.S.-backed regime, said in their latest propaganda attack the Christian Democrats had been defeated while fascism had been legitimised in the person of Arena leader, Maj. Roberto D'Aubuisson.

The guerrilla Radio Venceremos said: "Our struggle will continue," and called on the people to prepare for a final offensive.

Karamanlis, Pertini confer

ROME (R) — Greek President Constantine Karamanlis and Italian President Sandro Pertini Monday night discussed world peace, the European Economic Community (EEC) and stability in the Mediterranean region.

Both heads of state said they were concerned about the dangerous state of international tension, officials said.

President Pertini said Italy and Greece had great capacity for action through collaboration in the NATO alliance and the EEC, calling the organisations essential for maintaining peace.

Greece's Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu indicated he might take the country out of both bodies in the campaign leading to his election last October.

In an implicit reference to Greece's request for special status within the EEC, Mr. Pertini said: "Belonging to Europe requires a commitment to looking beyond one's own national horizons in a framework of active solidarity with all the other members of the community."

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Ceausescu urges Balkan summit

VIENNA (R) — Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu has called for a Balkan summit to discuss problems facing the region, once considered the powder keg of Europe.

In a toast to visiting Turkish

head of state Kenan Evren at a banquet in Bucharest Monday night, the Romanian leader said the meeting should discuss ways of surmounting existing problems, of building confidence and of strengthening cooperation and peace in the Balkans.

Haughey maintains that a solution to the Northern Ireland problem can be found only in negotiations between the British and Irish governments.

This is the fourth attempt to give Northern Ireland a local political forum since Britain assumed direct rule in 1972 after abolishing a Protestant-dominated parliament.

Previous efforts have foundered because of sectarian intransigence. More than 2,000 people have died in a fight by republican guerrillas to sever the province's links with Britain.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Riyadh opposes shift of non-aligned venue

JEDDAH (R) — Saudi Arabia has said it was opposed to any change in plans to hold a non-aligned summit conference in Baghdad next September, according to the official Saudi Press Agency. Iran, because of its war with Iraq, has asked for the summit to be either postponed or shifted to another venue, claiming that Iraq has violated the principles of non-alignment. The agency quoted a Saudi foreign ministry spokesman as saying the kingdom saw no reason for postponing or changing the venue of the gathering. The date and venue of the summit were decided at the previous non-aligned summit conference and any change must be decided at summit level, the spokesman said.

Embassy status for PLO in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka has decided to grant full embassy status to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission, the foreign ministry said Tuesday. The mission in Colombo has previously been at "representative" level.

Syrian helicopter crashes in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — A Syrian military helicopter crashed in Lebanon's central Bekaa Valley Tuesday killing the pilot and injuring two others, state-run Beirut radio said. It quoted a statement by the all-Syrian Arab Detachment Force (ADF) that the helicopter hit electricity cables near the town of Zahle while on a routine mission. The ADF has some 30,000 troops stationed in Lebanon under a peace-keeping mandate from the Arab League. Right-wing Falangist radio said the helicopter was a Soviet-made MI-8.

Street plans to return to Mideast

MELBOURNE (R) — Australian Foreign Minister Anthony Street says he plans to resume a Middle East tour which he cut short to attend an important meeting of Australia's ruling Liberal Party this week. Mr. Street told reporters after returning from the Middle East Monday night that the curtailment of the trip would not damage chances of resuming talks later in the year. "It will be a matter of timing but I am definitely going back," he said. Mr. Street had already visited Israel and Egypt but was unable to visit Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Qatar. Australia's relations with the Middle East have been dominated by trade for many years but now it is seeking a political relationship with the region.

1 killed, 5 injured in Sidon clashes

SIDON (R) — One person was killed and five were wounded in gunbattles between a Shi'ite Muslim organisation and a Palestinian group in South Lebanon Tuesday security sources said. The fighting in Adloun, south of Sidon, was touched off by a dispute between members of the pro-Iranian paramilitary Shi'ite organisation Amal and the pro-Iraqi Arab Liberation Front, the sources said. Two people were wounded in separate gunbattles between Amal and a local Communist Organisation near the town of Tyre in South Lebanon, they added. Amal has clashed repeatedly over the last three years with Lebanese leftists and Palestinian groups.

Japan to grant \$4.5m to Sudan

TOKYO (A.P.) — Japan will send 1.12 billion yen (\$4.5 million) to the African country of Sudan for the purchase of food and use in social and agricultural development projects, the foreign ministry said Tuesday. The ministry said 770 million yen (\$3.1 million) is for food, with the remainder to go to the development projects.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Moscow protests chemical allegation

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union has protested to the United States over U.S. allegations that it had delivered chemical weapons for use in Afghanistan and Southeast Asia, embassy sources said Monday. The sources said Ambassador Arthur Hartman was summoned to the foreign ministry and handed a formal note of protest. A text of the note, published by the official TASS news agency, said the United States had made its accusations to cover up its own use of chemical weapons in Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea.

Waldheim appointed at Georgetown

WASHINGTON (R) — Former United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim has been appointed a distinguished research professor of diplomacy at Georgetown University in Washington. Mr. Waldheim will conduct seminars and lecture at Georgetown's School of Foreign Service, the university said in a statement Monday.

Avalanche victim survives by eating snow

ALPINE MEADOWS, California (R) — A 22-year-old woman, found alive after spending five days buried in a giant avalanche, said she survived by eating snow. Anna Maria Conrad, a ski lift operator, was buried when an avalanche swept down on this northern Californian ski resort last Wednesday, officials said. The death toll reached seven on Monday when a man's body was found by rescue workers. Miss Conrad, who was wearing ski clothes and a wollen hat, was flown by helicopter to the nearby Tahoe Forest Hospital with frostbitten feet, some bruises and a black eye. Dr. Michael McQuarrie said she told him she managed to stay alive by sucking snow. A spokesman for the resort said Miss Conrad was conscious when she was found. "She was in an air pocket in the crushed building," he said. "Her will to live saw her through the five days of cold."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
1981 by Chicago Tribune

DEAR MR. GOREN
Q.—Our group tends to play five-card majors, especially in first and second seat. Last night I picked up the following hand:

♠10xx ♣Axix ♦KJxx ♣x
My partner opened the bidding with one club and I responded one diamond. Partner now leaped to two no trump and I raised to game. The opponents led a club and we were defeated. It turned out that partner held four hearts and only three clubs, and four hearts would have made. I was soundly castigated for bidding a minor suit when I held two four-card majors. I was told that not a single good player would respond one diamond with my hand. Is that so?—L. Lombardi, Ft. Lee, N.J.

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.)
A.—Well, that puts me in my place, as well as the vast majority of heretofore experts, who would all respond one diamond with your hand. This has nothing to do with system—I would respond one diamond whether I was playing four-card major methods or five-card suits. It is simply a matter of bidding logic.

There is a very small school of five-card major players who insist that it is responder's duty to show a major suit regardless of his length in the minor or the overall strength of his hand. They are a vanishing breed. A more significant number ignore the minor and bid a major on weak hands that

rate one bid only.
Most play that you show four-card suits in ascending order over partner's one club or one diamond opening. All use that method on hands that are good enough for two forward-going bids. That way, you should always be able to uncover a 4-4 fit, if there is one.

There is a very simple reason why you missed your 4-4 heart fit on the hand you submitted—partner made a bad rebid. Rather than choose to show a balanced 19-20 points by leaping to two no trump, he should have quietly bid one heart. Had you passed that, the chances that you were missing game were slim. Here, you were almost good enough for a jump raise of hearts, and you would speedily have reached the right game.

It is seldom a good idea to bypass a good four-card major suit to show a balanced hand. Experience has shown that a 4-4 major fit usually plays better than three no trump, especially where the single stopper is opposite a short suit—that makes it more likely that the opponents will attack your weakness at the starting gun.

It is the responsibility of both partners to seek the 4-4 major fit. There is no good reason to distort your whole bidding structure by placing the onus of bidding a major suit entirely on the shoulders of the responder. It is bad even if for no other reason than that, using such methods, the stronger hand will almost always be exposed in the dummy with the weaker hand concealed, thus making the defense so much easier.

Peking cautions U.S. on worsening ties, expresses willingness on negotiations

PEKING (R) — China has reminded the United States that their relations were on the brink of a precipice because of continuing American arms sales to Taiwan but said it was still willing to find a reasonable solution.

Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping was quoted as having told visiting former British Prime Minister Edward Heath on Tuesday that Washington could not go on trying to run Taiwan as an American aircraft carrier.

An official commentary in the China Daily said the Americans had "pushed Sino-U.S. relations to the precipice."

"It is up to Washington itself to get out of its present predicament, that is, if it wants to," the English-language newspaper said.

But a separate commentary in the People's Daily said Peking was willing to be patient and flexible, suggesting that arms sales to Taiwan might be acceptable for the present provided the U.S. agreed on a deadline to end them.

"China can under no circumstances permit the situation of the U.S. selling arms to Taiwan to continue without a time limit," it said.

It pointed out however that China had downgraded dip-

lomatic relations with the Netherlands last year after it decided to sell two submarines to the Taiwanese.

"Whether or not Sino-U.S. relations retrogress will depend on whether the U.S. conscientiously respects Chinese sovereignty and is determined to solve the problem of arms sales to Taiwan," the commentary added.

Mr. Heath, who is making a private visit to China, was asked at a news conference after his meeting

with Mr. Deng whether the powerful vice-chairman had commented on President Reagan's plans to sell military spare parts to Taiwan.

The \$60 million deal is expected to be formally notified to Congress later this month.

Mr. Heath said Mr. Deng had told him that "Congress must accept that this is just one China and that they cannot go on trying to run Taiwan as, to use their own phrase, an American aircraft carrier."

London reminds Ulster leaders of 'inescapable responsibility'

LONDON (R) — The British government has announced plans in parliament for a new elected assembly in Northern Ireland and told the strife-torn province's divided politicians they had a responsibility to make them work.

Northern Ireland Minister James Prior spelled out the plans in a statement on Monday, saying it offered a way out of political deadlock and violence.

"The government believes that the politicians of Northern Ireland have an inescapable responsibility to work out an acceptable scheme

for themselves," he said.

Leaders of the pro-British Protestant majority and the Catholic minority have criticised Mr. Prior's ideas. And the Irish Republic said in a statement Monday the plans were unworkable.

Mr. Prior wants elections later this year for a 78-seat assembly, whose main task would be to discuss how it would exercise devolved powers.

To help protect the Catholic minority, about a third of the population, any constitutional plan would require the support of up to

70 per cent of assembly members.

If this level of agreement was reached, the assembly would gradually be given executive powers, but not responsibility for defence, foreign affairs and law and order.

Protestant leaders object to the requirement for 70 per cent support, while Catholic politicians, most of whom favour an end to British rule and unity with the overwhelmingly Catholic Irish Republic, have said the scheme will only highlight divisions in the community.

Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey maintains that a solution to the Northern Ireland problem can be found only in negotiations between the British and Irish governments.

London seeks 'magic solution' for Falklands crisis

By Sidney Welland
Reuters

LONDON — Britain has sought support for a peaceful solution in the Falklands crisis while a strong naval task force sailed out ready to do battle with Argentina.

The despatch of the largest fleet assembled by Britain since World War Two gave the government a breathing space of about two weeks before deciding on military action.

British officials said a massive diplomatic effort was under way in hopes of still finding a formula for negotiations on the Falklands, seized by Argentina in a dawn raid last Friday.

But British and U.S. diplomats said there were no clear ideas so far for a political solution. "There's no quick fix, there are no rabbits in the hat," a U.S. official said.

The British armada, led by the country's only two aircraft carriers, has to travel about 13,000 kilometres to reach the South Atlantic. The time needed could be vital for international political moves to head off a direct conflict.

Slim chance to patch up

Although both Britain and Argentina have said they are ready to fight over the remote, sparsely-populated islands, Western diplomats cling to a belief that a way out may yet be found.

They said there was no prospect of a voluntary Argentine withdrawal, but there could still be a slim chance of patching together a face-saving arrangement that would give the 1,800 Falklanders limited autonomy under Argentine rule.

"The diplomatic possibilities haven't been exhausted, but nobody knows at this stage what can be done concretely," a senior London-based American diplomat said.

The effort for a political "magic solution" was highlighted as Lord Carrington, Britain's foreign secretary, and two of his junior ministers resigned following a barrage of charges that Britain was unprepared for the Argentine takeover.

British sources said Lord Carrington was in "continuous contact" with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig until shortly before he resigned, and U.S. officials said the Reagan administration was extremely busy in searching for a formula.

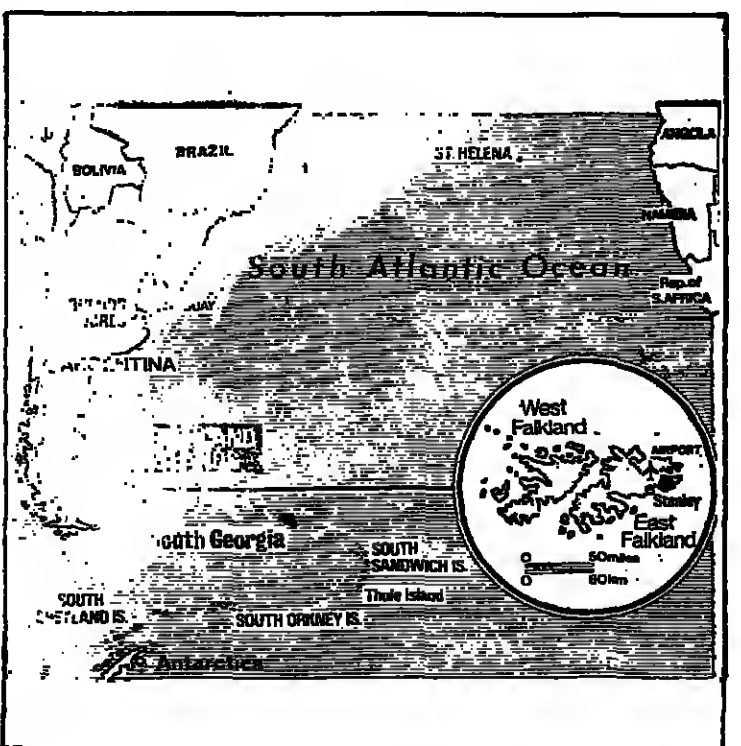
Domestic pressure

It was widely accepted in London that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government might be in serious danger, especially if it mounts an armed attack but fails to dislodge Argentina's invasion force.

Western diplomatic observers said the intense pressure facing the government and the risks involved in military action would persuade Mrs. Thatcher to clutch at whatever possibilities developed for a peaceful outcome.

"All sorts of diplomatic activities are going on, and will be going on," a Foreign Office official said. American sources said the next few days might be vital.

Britain appeared to be banking on U.S. mediation and hopes that key European allies would join in urging the Argentine military junta to return to the negotiating table.



The despatch of about 30 ships on the long voyage to the Falkland Islands reflected a deep mood of anger in Britain. Major newspapers, although critical of the government's handling of the affair, accepted that Britain may be forced to fight.

The Argentine invasion of one of Britain's last colonies, after a 150-year dispute over sovereignty, was seen as a humiliating blow